

Indian parliament faces disarray

NEW DELHI (AP) — Members from major opposition parties escalated their confrontation against the government Sunday saying they will resign from parliament to force the ouster of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi over an arms purchase scandal. "The national opposition will resign because of the government's obduracy," said Mohan Guruswamy, a member of the Janata Dal party. "Final touches to the decision are being given in consultation with all major opposition leaders." Guruswamy said the Janata Dal, the Bharatiya Janata Party, the Telugu Desam, the two major Communist parties and other regional groups were participating in the decision. Press Trust of India news agency said a final decision was expected to be announced Sunday. The parties hold about 70 seats in the 544-member Lok Sabha, (House of the People). The rest of the seats are held by Gandhi's Congress Party, independents and parties aligned with the Congress. "This will clearly be a major issue in the elections," Guruswamy said. Gandhi must call polls to the Lok Sabha no later than December.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز، يومية سياسية مستقلة، تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية للصحافة

Sudanese leader visits Iraq

BAGHDAD (R) — The deputy chairman of Sudan's Revolutionary Command Council arrived in Baghdad Saturday to brief Iraqi leaders on the motives and aims of the coup which toppled the government of Sadeq Al Mahdi last month. An Arab diplomat said Brigadier Al Zubeir Mohammed Saleh would deliver a message to President Saddam Hussein from Sudan's new military ruler, General Omar Hassan Al Bashir, detailing his new policy towards Iraq. Relations between Iraq and Mahdi's government deteriorated a year ago after Sudan said an Iraqi diplomat was involved in the killing in Khartoum of Mahdi Al Hakim, an Iraqi dissident who had close ties with Iran. Baghdad rejected the charge, saying it was fabricated by pro-Iranian circles, and recalled its ambassador. Relations improved after Iraq sent large quantities of relief supplies to Sudan after devastating floods last August. Iraq has also supplied military equipment to help the Sudanese army to fight rebels in the south of the country. Saleh, now on a tour of Arab Gulf states, has already visited Qatar, Bahrain and Kuwait.

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Artillery duels shred Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Apartment buildings burned out of control Saturday and cars smoldered on streets carpeted with rubble as nine hours of artillery battles across Beirut between Syrian-backed Lebanese militiamen and loyal to army commander Abdel Aoun. Police said six people were killed and 52 wounded overnight in the city. The latest casualties raised the toll to 440 killed and 1,836 wounded in the 18-week confrontation. A police spokesman said at least 60 shells and rockets rained on the city. Several casualties remained in the rubble for quite a long time, simply because no one had a telephone line to request help in rescuers, the police spokesman said. A shellfire severed power cables, leaving the city, where power is supplied for only one-two hours a day, in total darkness. The lights that illuminated the city were the flashes of exploding shells. The divided capital shook as snipers entrenched in west Beirut operated their multi-barrel rocket launchers that fire projectiles a minute. The rockets blasted residential blocks in east Beirut, the coast to the north and hills to the south. Aoun's troops opened up with 120-mm howitzers and 130-mm mortars, targeting mainly Syrian military positions, but many shells ricocheted to nearby areas. The right-wing Lebanese coalition of militias fired down on west Beirut and its suburbs, sparing no neighborhood in retaliation for the bar-mulambulations drove on sidewalks, hugging the walls of high-



An Israeli soldier stands atop an army vehicle and fires into the Dheish refugee camp in the occupied West Bank during a flurry of stone-throwing protests this week.

Mubarak asks Israel to publicly state its real stand

CAIRO (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak Saturday asked Israel to spell out publicly and clearly its plan for Middle East peace talks to explain its "real, official position that counts." He told a political rally that recent political developments in the Zionist state have obstructed Arab-Israeli peace efforts. Mubarak did not cite the developments he had in mind. But he obviously referred to headline conditions that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir attached to his Palestinian election plan this month to appease the radical wing of his Likud bloc. Later, to reporters, the president accused the principal proponent of the new conditions, Industry Minister Ariel Sharon, of issuing a terrorist threat with his call for Israel to kill Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). "How come the Israeli government demands that Palestinians renounce terrorism... and then comes an official in the Israeli government making such comments which contain terrorist threats?" Mubarak asked. "Can this be civilised conduct in a civilised democratic country? It is really unfortunate," he told reporters. Sharon said Monday that until Arafat had been eliminated he saw no real possibilities for Middle East peace diplomacy. Questioned on Shamir's plan for Palestinian elections in the occupied territories, Mubarak said the proposal would not bear fruit unless Israel recognised the principle of peace for land. "If Israel rejects this principle, the Israeli initiative will not lead to anything... the issue can never be solved if Israel insists on its position," he said. "The Israeli scene recently witnessed developments that complicated the situation to a great extent and placed new obstacles before the peace process," Mubarak said in his speech marking the 37th anniversary of the revolution that overthrew the monarchy. "The Israeli government, therefore, should declare its position publicly and specifically after these developments so that all of us can get a clear picture of the real, official position that counts." Mubarak previously said he welcomed in principle Shamir's proposal but had certain "reservations" and wanted "clarifications" that he did not spell out. In an interview with the Cairo newspaper Al-Ahram published July 11, Mubarak said that Shamir "apparently gave in to the hardline wing in the Likud, and the question now is: Does this mean a change in the (original) plan presented by the Israeli government?" If this is true, it means that the idea of elections has been blown up. "U.S. too slow" Arafat's deputy in Fatah accused the United States Saturday on being too slow in talks with the PLO. "The Americans are complicating things and deal with the issues in a very slow way," Salah Khalaf, known as Abu Ayad, told Iraq's ruling Baath Party daily Al-Thawra. "The Americans talk about the elections (in the occupied territories) but they do not want us to talk about the second step or define the nature of the third step," he said. The Socialists, the coalition's second-largest party and a vital component of any government which excludes the Communists, held onto the powerful deputy prime minister's post and several other key ministries. The Christian Democrats ceded the prestigious Foreign Ministry — which Andreotti held in the old cabinet — to socialist Gianni De Michelis, the outgoing deputy prime minister, in exchange for the treasury. Andreotti chose Guido Carli, a former governor of the Bank of Italy, as his chief economic minister. The new prime minister has said the priorities of his government will be preparation for the single European market after 1992, institutional and economic reforms, fresh efforts to help under-developed south Italy and a stepped-up fight against the mafia.

Children back in schools amid commercial strike

Tense truce in W. Bank

DHEISHEH, occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Israelis and Palestinians cooperated warily Saturday to reopen nearly 1,000 Arab schools in the occupied West Bank that had been closed for more than a year. Israel hoped the peaceful return to studies by 200,000 primary and 13th grade students pointed to an easing in the 19-month-old Palestinian uprising. "It has been very quiet and we are very optimistic," Olivier Rafowicz, spokesman for Israel "civil administration" in the West Bank, told Reuters. But Palestinian educator Khalil Mahshi said that while Palestinians of all factions wanted schools to be oases of calm for learning, demonstrations would not necessarily ease. "Usually students if they want to participate in demonstrations... leave school premises by themselves," Mahshi told Israel Radio. The chants of Palestinian children, reciting Arabic and practicing multiplication tables range out from the schools as the West Bank and Gaza observed a general strike. The nearly 1,200 primary and

second schools in the West Bank have been closed for most of the uprising, despite appeals from the United States and international human rights organisations. No major incidents were reported Saturday. In several West Bank cities, more troops than normal were seen on main roads. Reports said curfews imposed on four villages and a refugee camp near Nablus or Ramallah blocked students from going to school. Two Palestinians were reported wounded in clashes with soldiers near Nablus and in Gaza City. Throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip, shops and businesses were closed by a general strike ordered by the fundamentalist movement Hamas. There were some fears that the first day of school would be disrupted by the strike, but Hamas announced in a leaflet it favoured children returning to class. Graffiti on a wall outside the United Nations-run school in the Al-Amari refugee camp near Ramallah also called on students to pursue their educations. "With stones and pens, the blessed uprising continues," read one slogan, signed by Hamas. Before allowing classes to resume, army officials met with school administrators and warned that they would have to control their students or the schools would be closed again. Samira Abdullah Mahmoud, principal of the Bethlehem Girls School, said that Israeli soldiers, who previously parked jeeps across from her elementary school, Saturday stayed about 50 metres away in an apparently effort to reduce tensions. "The children become nervous when they see soldiers outside," she said. She described the school's 404 elementary-schoolgirls as "obviously happy to be back." To make up for the lost school time, she said, the girls will focus on Arabic, mathematics and science. Electives like physical education, music and art will not be taught. "We can't do physical education anyway," Mahmoud said. "During the closure, the soldiers tore down the wall around the playground." Residents in the area said that stones, the main weapon of the uprising, had been hurled at pas-



Giulio Andreotti

Andreotti announces government

ROME (R) — Veteran Christian Democrat Giulio Andreotti formed Italy's 49th post-war coalition Saturday, ending one of the country's longest government crises. TASS said two members of the security forces were ambushed in a village late Friday by a crowd armed with hunting guns, taking 20 to the death toll from a week's fighting between Abkhazians and Georgians in the Black Sea region. Elsewhere, tens of thousands of miners at several pits across the country remained on strike, despite a drift back to work begun in Siberian Kuzbass following calls by their leaders to accept a landmark agreement on pay and living conditions. "Unidentified persons, armed with hunting guns, fired at a mobile group clearing barriers erected by residents of villages and confiscating weapons on Friday evening in the Abkhazian village of Ostapi," the official news agency said. It said Vladimir Novikov, 31, a senior militia lieutenant and Vladimir Akopov, 18, a student, were killed by the shots. The deaths were the first to be reported since long-simmering tensions between Abkhazians and Georgians erupted last weekend into open violence in which 18 people died in Sukhumi, capital of the autonomous area within the Republic of Georgia.

Lingering strike, ethnic violence haunt Gorbachev

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Two more deaths in ethnic unrest and a continuing strike in some Soviet coal mines gave little cheer Saturday to President Mikhail Gorbachev who admits his own ruling Communist Party is out of touch with the people. TASS said two members of the security forces were ambushed in a village late Friday by a crowd armed with hunting guns, taking 20 to the death toll from a week's fighting between Abkhazians and Georgians in the Black Sea region. Elsewhere, tens of thousands of miners at several pits across the country remained on strike, despite a drift back to work begun in Siberian Kuzbass following calls by their leaders to accept a landmark agreement on pay and living conditions. "Unidentified persons, armed with hunting guns, fired at a mobile group clearing barriers erected by residents of villages and confiscating weapons on Friday evening in the Abkhazian village of Ostapi," the official news agency said. It said Vladimir Novikov, 31, a senior militia lieutenant and Vladimir Akopov, 18, a student, were killed by the shots. The deaths were the first to be reported since long-simmering tensions between Abkhazians and Georgians erupted last weekend into open violence in which 18 people died in Sukhumi, capital of the autonomous area within the Republic of Georgia. The dispatch of some 3,000 Interior Ministry troops had until Friday prevented fresh casualties in the dispute, the latest ethnic unrest to hit the country, despite continued raids on gun shops and police armories. In another village, Lindava, police found 170 kilograms of explosives and 550 fuses with detonators hidden in a hole behind brush, TASS reported. It said the situation in the region was not improving and public transport remained idle. Many businesses remained closed and railroad workers continued a strike, TASS said. In other unrest, the youth newspaper Kommunisticheskaya Pravda reported that someone had freed 174 prisoners from a jail in the city of Zugdidi. Unrest prompted townspeople to erect street barricades, stopping virtually all traffic and prompting radio Moscow to warn: "Heaps of garbage in hot weather could result in an epidemic." Police and soldiers have seized more than 2,700 firearms since an emergency was declared (see page 8).

In the meantime, some 700 members of both the Georgian and Abkhazian community had been meeting in Sukhumi and nearby Gagra to find a peaceful solution, TASS said. The overall picture in an almost two-week-old coal strike was less clear Saturday, although reports from various strike-hit regions suggested that some miners were following their comrades from Kuzbass. The miners in the west Siberian field, where the dispute first started, completed a return to work Friday after agreeing to a 35-point package on pay and conditions which Coal Minister Mikhail Shekhovov said would be extended to all miners. The latest appeal for miners to resume work came from popular former Moscow Party chief Boris Yeltsin, who told television viewers that the stoppage could paralyse the economy if they spread to other sectors. Gorbachev, clearly alarmed at the simultaneous explosion of both nationalist and economic unrest, called this week for "a flow of fresh blood" into the Communist Party leadership, saying many officials were clinging to inappropriate, old methods. The Communist Party daily Pravda said Saturday that 100 of the 120 or so mines in the Donbass, the country's largest coal-producing area, were still on strike and the dispute was costing five million roubles (\$8 million) a day. TASS, which Friday reported 70 Donbass pits idle, said all mines in the area's main centre, Donetsk, were on strike. Local strike leaders, it said, had rejected a proposed agreement by government representatives sent to the area, saying they disagreed with provisions on pensions. A Soviet photographer just returned from the Ukrainian town of Pavlograd, where all 11 pits were strike-bound, said miners had set up tents in a central square, where they remained round-the-clock, eating sausages, chatting and playing chess. Small crowds gathered around radios to hear news bulletins.

Liberal party underdog in today's Japanese polls

GYO (Agencies) — Embattled Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, in a last-ditch effort to prevent a widely predicted shift in Sunday's upper house elections, said Saturday the poll a choice between freedom and socialism. "Only the Liberal Democratic Party can govern this country," Uno declared in his final campaign speech, attacking the main rival Socialist Party and praising his party's record in raising Japan's status in the world. "Socialism does not fit in Japan. Please help us defend freedom in this country," Uno, 66, told several hundred party workers. Hobbled by allegations he kept paid mistresses, Uno made few public appearances during the 18-day campaign and his last was in a secluded parking lot at party headquarters. By contrast, Takako Doi, chairwoman of the Japan Socialist Party, held her final campaign rally at a main intersection in Tokyo's Ginza shopping and entertainment district. "Now is the time we can change politics, and the energy is beginning to move," Doi said. bringing pressures for the resignation of Uno, in office less than two months, and for early elections for the more powerful lower house, where LDP losses could bring Japan a socialist-led government. "Only the Liberal Democratic Party can govern this country," Uno declared in his final campaign speech, attacking the main rival Socialist Party and praising his party's record in raising Japan's status in the world. "Socialism does not fit in Japan. Please help us defend freedom in this country," Uno, 66, told several hundred party workers. Hobbled by allegations he kept paid mistresses, Uno made few public appearances during the 18-day campaign and his last was in a secluded parking lot at party headquarters. By contrast, Takako Doi, chairwoman of the Japan Socialist Party, held her final campaign rally at a main intersection in Tokyo's Ginza shopping and entertainment district. "Now is the time we can change politics, and the energy is beginning to move," Doi said. This is an important election which you make a choice between liberalism or socialism or freedom," he said. The LDP, in power continuously for 34 years, is expected after a stinging setback in the as a result of the scandals and introduction in April of a highly unpopular sales tax. It needs to win 54 of the 126 seats at stake to retain a majority in the upper house, but opinion indicates it will probably only around 35. poor LDP showing could

Last-minute hitch aborts Chad-Libya pact

AMAKO (R) — Differences over a disputed border region between Chad and Libya resurfaced late Friday to delay signing of a peace accord between the two countries. Official sources attending a 10-day summit meeting on the Chad-Libya conflict said Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi is at odds with his Chadian counterpart Hissene Habre over the presence of Libyan troops in the disputed Aouzou Strip. Qadhafi accepted a proposal to take the territorial dispute to the International Court of Justice in the Hague, they said. But the proposal, due to be signed here, ran aground when the suggested Libyan troops withdrawn from the area pending a ruling, the sources said. The Libyan leader rejected this as well as a compromise proposal for stationing a neutral force from the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) in Aouzou, which Libya annexed in 1973. Qadhafi was also demanding extradition from Chad of Libyan opposition members living there, the sources said. The summit, convened by outgoing OAU Chairman Moussa Traore of Mali, and attended by five other heads of state, ended Friday. "The draft of the peace accord was provisionally approved by foreign ministers and submitted to the heads of state for signing on the last day of the scheduled two-day meeting in the Mali

capital of Bamako. "The heads of state will perhaps make a few minor amendments, but there will definitely be a Bamako declaration on Friday... it will be more than an agreement in principle," one source close to the talks said before news of the latest hitch. Qadhafi arrived in Bamako Thursday with an entourage of about 800 on four planes. He later emerged from his first meeting with Habre smiling. The peace accord was expected to be the first step in reconciling Chad and Libya, at war since 1973 over the supposedly mineral-rich Aouzou Strip. "They have agreed now to a friendship treaty and take a

number of commitments on a wide range of subjects, including Aouzou," one delegation member said. Chad's ambassador to France blamed Qadhafi for the failure of efforts to end the dispute and said the Libyan leader was more concerned with the presence of French troops in Chad, a former French colony, than with the Aouzou conflict. "Libya avoided settling the problem at the base of the conflict, that is to say the Aouzou Strip. Qadhafi did not even accept recourse to the International Court of Justice, for example," Ahmad Alalam told Radio France Infos Saturday. "He prefers the status quo to a solution of the problem."

De Klerk challenges ANC to seek peace

SOMERSET WEST, South Africa (Agencies) — Governing party leader F.W. de Klerk said Saturday the African National Congress (ANC) should "follow the lead" of Nelson Mandela by committing itself to a peaceful settlement in South Africa. De Klerk, expected to succeed P.W. Botha as president after elections in September, told a National Party congress he had supported plans for the meeting earlier this month between Botha and Mandela, the ANC leader who has been imprisoned since 1962. The meeting, at Botha's residence in Cape Town, "was in the best interest of South Africa," de Klerk said. He made no direct reference to the possibility of Mandela's release, but implied that the ANC leader was now considered by the government to be a potential voice of reconciliation. But he restated Pretoria's stand that it would never negotiate with people it views as "terrorists," and said the ANC could be included in talks about South Africa's future only if it abandoned armed resistance. "We are not prepared to com-

Zia aide arrested

ISLAMABAD (R) — Police investigating the murder of a clergyman arrested a confidant of Pakistan's late military president, Mohammad Zia Ul-Haq, Saturday, the official APP news agency reported. Lieutenant-General Fazle Haq, an opposition member of parliament's lower house, was detained in North West Frontier Province capital of Peshawar soon after the provincial high court there declined to confirm a previous bail order, it said. Haq and his brother-in-law Hashim Khan are wanted for questioning in connection with the murder of militant Shi'ite Muslim clergyman Arif Hussain Al-Hussaini last year when Haq was chief minister of North West Frontier Province under Zia. Hashim Khan, a member of the Senate (upper house of parliament), has eluded arrest since his supporters drove him out of a court last month after he was refused bail. The private PTI news agency said scuffles broke out at the high court between police and Haq supporters.

Rocket kills 30 in Kabul

KABUL (Agencies) — A rebel rocket exploded near a crowded Kabul bus station Saturday, killing at least 30 people and injuring scores of others, soldiers at the scene and hospital officials said.

The bus station in the centre of the Afghan capital is always very crowded with people waiting for buses to the suburbs.

The rocket exploded on the side of the road, sending shrapnel tearing across the bus station.

Witnesses said one rocket landed 100 metres from the office of Prime Minister Sultan Ali Kishmand and a second hit about 50 metres from the Foreign Ministry compound. Several windows were shattered by the blasts, they said.

The government closed off the areas around all ministry buildings.

"This is a very serious attack," said Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Nabi Amani. He had no breakdown of casualties, saying the government was waiting for more information.

"It is one of the worst rocket attacks in recent months," said Sarwar Wisi, chief of Jambhuriat hospital, where at least 57 people were admitted, many in critical condition.

Many other people had been rushed to other hospitals in the city, officials said.

Vendors and soldiers at the Dev Khana bus station said the area was very crowded when the rocket struck at mid-morning.



War games... an Afghan boy in the southeastern city of Kandahar is proud to make to do with a toy machinegun

Mubarak declares war on population explosion

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak Saturday unveiled a strategy to overcome the perils of a high birth rate threatening the world's most populous Arab state.

He set out a five-point blueprint for success — protection of social stability, higher food production, desert reclamation, education reform and economic liberalisation.

Addressing party supporters on the eve of the 37th anniversary of the 1952 revolution that overthrew the monarchy and ended British occupation of the country two years later, Mubarak focused on the evils of overpopulation.

"A police sergeant asked me once for a flat to house his family," he told members of the ruling National Democratic Party (NDP). "I asked him how many children he had. He said 13. I asked him if he wanted me to provide a whole block of flats."

Overpopulation was the single biggest obstacle to economic development, Mubarak said.

"Everything we do (in development) is eaten up by population

growth."

Egypt's population of nearly 60 million is expanding at the rate of about one million every seven or eight months, and economists say the country is running out of cash.

"How shall I get the money to feed them, clothe them or find houses for them? It's difficult, almost impossible," Mubarak added.

The annual NDP conference, which ended Saturday, was focused on unemployment. Officials say there are 1.1 million jobless in Egypt but some unofficial estimates put the figure at between three and four million.

In a move apparently aimed at winning approval from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for its economic policies, Egypt Saturday raised a special customs rate for the dollar to market levels.

Egypt seeks an accord with the IMF that would help it reschedule part of its \$30 billion foreign debt and win new credits from Western banks.

The United States is withholding two years' installments in cash transfers to Egypt, amounting to \$230 million and analysts say the change in the customs rate is one measure demanded by Washington in return for the release of the cash.

While Egypt has gone along with creditors' demands for cutting the budget deficit, Mubarak has resisted cutting huge food and energy subsidies for fear of sparking violent unrest.

Maintaining social stability while nudging the country towards a free market economy has been one of Mubarak's aims throughout his eight-year rule.

"Real effort was being made," Mubarak said, "to expand and extend beyond the confines of the family Nile Valley."

On education, he said there was a need to shift from university education to technical training. "The IMF was very praise for Mubarak Friday when he said it was one of the financial institutions helping Egypt out of its difficulties."

Velayati: Ties with Arabs better

BEIRUT (AP) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said Saturday Tehran's relations with Arab states were "better" despite a strain in ties with Saudi Arabia.

"We believe that the status of our relations with Saudi Arabia does not reflect on our relations with other Arab countries," Velayati told Beirut's daily Al Safir.

Relations between Iran and most Arab states were strained during Iran's eight-year war with Iraq.

Velayati said relations with Saudi Arabia depend on Saudi willingness to allow a bigger quota of Iranian pilgrims to visit the holy Muslim shrines in Mecca.

Iran insists on being allowed to send 100,000 pilgrims. But Saudi Arabia has limited the Iranian quota to 45,000, under a formula of one pilgrim per thousand population for Muslim states because of overcrowding at the holy places.

Iran has boycotted the pilgrimage for two years because of the dispute over the quota and Iran and Saudi Arabia have severed diplomatic ties.

Three bombs exploded at the climax of this month's pilgrimage season in Mecca. Saudi Arabia has not officially blamed anyone for the blasts.

On Lebanon, Velayati said Iran was "helping the confrontation forces (leftists and Muslims) and Syria which are trying to fight the enemies of Arabs and Islam."

Somalia rejects reports of arrests and executions

NAIROBI (Agencies) — Somalia has rejected claims that armed forces rounded up thousands of people and summarily executed 40 men in the aftermath of rioting that reportedly left about 400 dead.

"Enemies of the Somali people and their collaborators have been disseminating sensational propaganda, lies about the true situation in Somalia," the Somali embassy in Washington said late Friday.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Somali Democratic Republic wishes to state categorically that the situation in Mogadishu is normal and (in) the country as a whole.

The human rights group Africa Watch and anonymous sources said violence broke out July 14 in Mogadishu, capital to the country, after the slaying of a Roman Catholic bishop and the arrests of Muslim religious leaders.

The reports put the number killed in the rioting at about 400 and said soldiers had opened fire in residential districts.

More than 1,000 people were injured, Africa Watch said in a statement issued Friday in Nairobi. It also has offices in London and Washington.

Africa Watch said about 2,000 people were arrested in house-to-house searches. Forty-six were convicted in military courts of participation in the unrest and shot on a beach outside Mogadishu, the report said.

The government has said 23 people died and 59 were injured in violence it blamed on "trouble-makers."

In Washington, the State Department said it was concerned about what it termed "credible reports" of executions in Somalia.

"We are directing our embassy in Mogadishu to raise our concern with the Somali government and ask it to act to ensure that civil liberties and human rights are fully protected," spokesman Richard Boucher said.

Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre has cancelled plans to attend next week's African summit in neighbouring Ethiopia, a Somali official said Friday.

Diplomats and residents contacted from Nairobi said prayer services got underway Friday apparently without incident and that the city appeared calm.

The Somali government blamed the riots on bandits operating under the cloak of religion and said 23 people had died.

A Somali official in Mogadishu said Siad Barre has decided not to attend the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) heads of state summit in Addis Ababa, the capital of neighbouring Ethiopia, next week. He gave no reason for the decision.

The diplomats and residents said the government has rounded up an unknown number of people after last Friday's clashes between protesters and security forces.

They also said the government has banned Somalis, including local journalists, from using Mogadishu's only public telephones, located at the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Bahrain's top killer is heart attacks

NICOSIA (R) — A third of all deaths among the 450,000 population of Bahrain are due to heart attacks and the incidence was rising, especially in the villages, a Health Ministry statement carried Friday by the Bahrain-based Gulf News Agency received in Cyprus said.

Iran determined to sue U.S.

NICOSIA (R) — Iran's top aviation official said Friday U.S. offers of compensation for the Airbus tragedy could be considered only after the World Court had censured Washington for shooting down the plane. The Iranian news agency IRNA quoted Mohammad Nahi Habibi, head of the Civil Aviation Organisation, as saying Iran was determined to pursue the case filed in May at the International Court of Justice "to bring the United States to justice." Washington offered Monday to pay up to \$250,000 to relatives of the 290 people killed when the U.S. cruiser Vincennes shot down the plane over the Gulf after mistaking it for an attacking fighter. In Iran's first official reaction, Habibi dismissed the offer as a "preventive measure" against Iran's suit at the Hague. Iran might accept compensation "only after Washington is judicially and legally condemned for its crime," he said. Tehran blamed the attack on the Airbus in July last year as cold-blooded murder.

Settler held for trying to run down leftists

TEL AVIV (R) — Police Friday arrested a Jewish settler accused of trying to run down Israeli peace activists in the occupied West Bank, Israel Radio said. It quoted the women activists as saying the settler drove at them June 30 as they demonstrated outside the Arab village of Be'er in opposition to a series of marches in the occupied territories by right-wing settlers. The marches were intended as a show of force in the face of the 19-month-long Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The suspect, a resident of the West Bank Jewish settlement of Ariel, was released on bail of \$5,000, the radio said.

U.S., Soviet experts to meet

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. and Soviet experts will discuss Iran and Afghanistan when they meet in Stockholm July 31, the State Department said Friday. The talks continue a pattern of consultation on regional issues established over the past few years as relations between the superpowers improved. State Department deputy spokesman Richard Boucher said the talks would last until Aug. 1, with the U.S. delegation to be headed by John Kelly, assistant secretary of state for Near East and South-East Asian affairs. The Bush administration is worried about increasing ties between Iran and the Soviet Union, which recently signed a declaration of intent to expand economic and military cooperation. Washington has also called for the removal of the Soviet-backed government in Kabul and the creation of a more pluralistic system with a major role for the government's adversaries, the U.S.-backed Mujahideen rebels.

3 held in Egypt for lynching

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian police arrested three Muslim militants accused of lynching a fellow fundamentalist for a false passport swindle, security sources said Saturday. They said Wafiq Safwat Rashwan, believed to be a member of the outlawed Jihad Organisation, was found dead Friday with a blindfold over his eyes, his hands and legs tied and a rope around his neck near the southern Cairo district of Bassateen. Acting on a tip from residents, police arrested three men suspected of being Jihad members. The sources said they decided to kill Rashwan after discovering he had falsified their Rashwan had agreed to provide false passports but failed to produce them or return their money, the sources said. The militants lured Rashwan to a house, tied him up, hanged him and dumped his body in a pit. Police seized firecrackers, gunpowder, knives and toy pistols and were hunting for a fourth suspect, the sources added. The Egyptian authorities have rounded up more than 2,000 Islamic hardliners in the last four months in a drive to stamp out religious militants.

Lebanese man shot dead in Paris

PARIS (R) — A Lebanese man has been shot dead outside a plush Paris hotel, police said. Antoine Makdisi, 50, from the Lebanese town of Baalbek, was shot several times after leaving the Hotel Queen Elizabeth shortly before midnight Friday, a police spokesman added. He was believed to be a frequent customer of the hotel. Police said no motive for the killing was immediately apparent and no arrests have been made.

Shamir urges Yugoslavia to reopen ties

BEGRAD (R) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir urged Yugoslavia Friday to reopen diplomatic relations with his country, saying Belgrade was lagging in this respect behind the Soviet Union, Poland and Hungary. "We know that Yugoslavia has excellent relations with the Arab countries and with Palestinian organisations," Shamir told the Belgrade weekly magazine Nin in an interview. "By establishing diplomatic relations (with Israel), Yugoslavia would influence Arab countries to normalise their relations with Israel." Though non-aligned, communist Yugoslavia joined the Soviet Union and all Warsaw Pact countries except Romania in breaking relations with Israel after the 1967 war.

Gunmen attack UNIFIL post

TYRE, Lebanon (R) — Gunmen attacked a U.N. post in South Lebanon with machineguns and rocket-propelled grenades Friday seriously wounding a Fijian peacekeeper. Timor Goksel, spokesman for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), said the 20-minute clash in the village of Saadikin, 85 kilometres south of Beirut, ended after Fijian troops returning the post fired a tank shell at the attackers. A Fijian soldier badly wounded in the eyes was taken to a hospital in Israel, he said. The attackers were not identified. Fijis' 725-man unit has lost 22 dead since UNIFIL deployed in 1978.

OIC calls for Islamic action in Bulgarian ethnic issue

JEDDAH (Agencies) — The ministerial council of the 46-nation Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) has called for "decisive" pan-Islamic action over the issue of ethnic Turks in Bulgaria.

The OIC urged "Islamic solidarity" to pressure Sofia to respond to Ankara's quest for a contractual treaty that would organise voluntary emigration of Muslims being forcibly assimilated in the East European state.

Saudi Arabia, the OIC's host and leading member, also issued a separate statement criticising the "humiliating racist manner" that contravenes the most basic humane norms and international charters.

The statements followed stepped up Islamic contacts over the issue, both by OIC Secretary-General Hamed Al Ghabid as well as the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, the current OIC chairman.

Turkish President Kenan Evren sent a message to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia earlier this month amid reports that he was

lobbying for an emergency meeting of the OIC.

The Saudi statement, issued by the Foreign Ministry and distributed by the Saudi Press Agency, expressed the deep concern of King Fahd's government over the issue.

It supported Turkey's call for negotiations with Bulgaria to resolve the issue.

The OIC statement, issued by its foreign ministerial council, expressed "hope that the Islamic nations will take a decisive stand against those repressive practices."

"Friendly nations should support Turkey in its just efforts to urge the Bulgarian government to enter into official negotiations that would lead to conclusion of a deal that can organise voluntary emigration of the sons of the Turkish Muslims minority," the OIC statement said.

Sofia's stand

Bulgaria has accused Turkey of stalling talks to settle the dispute. The foreign ministry said Sofia had agreed to top-level talks in

Vienna at the end of July.

"Our country did serious and responsible preparation for these negotiations," said a statement carried by Bulgaria's official BTA news agency.

"To our great regret, however, Turkey refused the agreed meetings."

It said a Turkish statement Thursday accusing Bulgaria of spreading rumours by saying talks had been arranged amounted to a rejection of the meeting.

Nearly 170,000 Bulgarian ethnic Turks, whom Sofia describes as tourists, have streamed into Turkey since mid-May. They say they are fleeing a five-year campaign of cultural and religious assimilation.

Sofia says the ethnic Turks are really Bulgarians whose ancestors were forced into the Islamic faith during 500 years of Ottoman rule.

"The real reason why the Turkish side is terminating the preparations for the negotiations is that it is not ready for honest, equal and constructive talks with Bulgaria," the Bulgarian statement said.

Iran's drug addicts take last legal fix

By Mohammad Zargham Reuters

NICOSIA (R) — Iran's drug users took their last fix Saturday before addiction becomes an offence punished by internment in labour camps.

Officials vowed to arrest 55,000 drug addicts in an initial crackdown starting Sunday under a tough anti-narcotics law enacted in January. The law had granted a six-month grace period.

The Islamic Revolutionary Committee (IRC) said agents would set up checkpoints in many towns and cities to round up addicts.

Those detained will be sent

to a network of labour camps and put to hard labour — building roads, digging canals, planting trees — during the day and locked up at night until they are fully detoxicated.

Iran has executed more than 700 drug traffickers since January when it declared all-out war on drug abuse. Officials estimate there are one million drug addicts among Iran's more than 50 million people.

The January law makes possession of 30 grammes of heroin or five kilograms of opium a capital offence.

To save our country's youth we have decided to punish the smugglers with no mercy at

all," Prosecutor-General Mohammad Mousavi Khoenini has said.

Official statements indicate drug addiction has increased since the 1979 revolution, affecting all sections of society with little discrimination in sex, age or class.

Whole villages, especially on the eastern drug routes from Pakistan and Afghanistan, are addicted. In cities, a heroin fix is almost as easy to buy — and as cheap — as a pack of foreign cigarettes.

Letters in Iranian newspapers suggest drug abuse is spreading in schools and people are switching from opium to the

much stronger heroin.

Officials say the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, helped by the mafia, is pushing drugs in Iran to undermine the Islamic revolution.

But critics say many unemployed youths are attracted by the huge profits — about 7,000 per cent on heroin smuggled from Babat, a main supply centre across the border in Afghanistan, to Tehran.

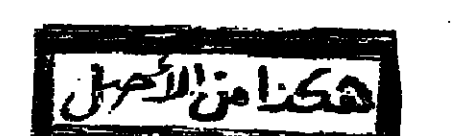
"From now on we will not deal with drug addicts as miserable persons, but rather as enemy infiltrators in society," said IRC commander Sersajedin Mousavi.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION	16:23	17:00	17:30	18:00	18:30	19:00	19:30	20:00	20:30	21:00	21:30	22:00
77111-19	19:45	20:15	20:45	21:15	21:45	22:15	22:45	23:15	23:45	24:15	24:45	25:15
PROGRAMME ONE	Koran	Programme review	Children programme	Football	News summary in Arabic	Local programme	Give Me a Break	Local programme	Programme review	Local programme	Varieties programme	News summary in Arabic
PROGRAMME TWO	Le monde magique chantal goya	Loft story	La chance aux chansons	News in French	Do you France	News in Hebrew	Varieties programme	News in Arabic	Assignment Adventure	Do you Assignment Adventure	News in English	Agatha Christie's Poirot
PRAYER TIMES	06:57	07:29	08:01	08:33	09:05	09:37	10:09	10:41	11:13	11:45	12:17	12:49
	Dhuhr	(Sunrise) Dhuhr	Dhuhr									

CHURCHES	Min./max. temp.	USEFUL TELEPHONE	EMERGENCIES	HOSPITALS	FOR THE TRAVELLER
St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedish, Tel. 810740	19 / 30	Police 112	Civil Defence Department 661111	AMMAN: Elmehdi Medical Centre 81381332	Queen Alia International Airport
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785	23 / 38	Fire 999	Civil Defence Emergency 630341	Elmehdi Maternity, J. Amm 64281616	Other Flights (Terminal 2)
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590	19 / 37	Police 112	Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777	Al-Jalal Maternity, J. Amm 64281616	18:20 Dubai (AZ)
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440	22 / 36	Police 112	Fire Brigade 999	Al-Jalal Maternity, J. Amm 64281616	18:30 Cairo (MS)
De la Salette Church Tel. 661757		Police 112	Blood Bank 775121	Al-Mawakeel Hospital 66175757	18:40 Jeddah (SV)
Turkmen Church Tel. 623636		Police 112	Highway Police 843402	Al-Mawakeel Hospital 66175757	18:50 Beirut (CP)
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541		Police 112	Traffic Police 843402	Al-Mawakeel Hospital 66175757	19:00 Tel Aviv (IA)
Anglican Church Tel. 623583, Tel. 623543		Police 112	Public Security Department 63032	Al-Mawakeel Hospital 66175757	19:10 Athens (OA)
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331		Police 112	Hotel Complaints 605800	Al-Mawakeel Hospital 66175757	
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772661		Police 112	Water and Sewerage 661776	Al-Mawakeel Hospital 66175757	
St. Sava Church Tel. 771751		Police 112	Complaints 897467	Al-Mawakeel Hospital 66175757	
Armenian International Church Tel. 683326		Police 112	Complaints 897467	Al-Mawakeel Hospital 66175757	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 623541		Police 112	Complaints 897467	Al-Mawakeel Hospital 66175757	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264		Police 112	Complaints 897467	Al-Mawakeel Hospital 66175757	
		Police 112	Complaints 897467	Al-Mawakeel Hospital 66175757	

ARRIVALS	DEPARTURES	MARKET PRICES
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)	Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)	Opponent prices in \$/kg
18:15 Amman (RJ)	18:15 Amman (RJ)	Apple (local) 350 / 400
18:20 Jeddah (SV)	18:20 Jeddah (SV)	Apple (import) 300 / 350
18:30 Cairo (MS)	18:30 Cairo (MS)	Apple (red) 300 / 350
18:40 Jeddah (SV)	18:40 Jeddah (SV)	Banana (Mushammak) 350 / 400
18:50 Beirut (CP)	18:50 Beirut (CP)	Banana (local) 350 / 400
19:00 Tel Aviv (IA)	19:00 Tel Aviv (IA)	Carrot 70 / 80
19:10 Athens (OA)	19:10 Athens (OA)	Cauliflower 150 / 180
		Corn 150 / 180
		Cucumber 240 / 280
		Eggplant 80 / 90
		Garlic 750 / 850
		Grape 240 / 280
		Leek (green) 200 / 240
		Leek (white) 200 / 240
		Onion 300 / 350
		Orange 300 / 350
		Potato (local) 150 / 180
		Potato (import) 150 / 180
		Potato (sweet) 150 / 180
		Potato 240 / 280
		Tomato 50 / 60



Jardaneh briefs cabinet on Paris debt talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Finance Basel Jardaneh Saturday briefed the cabinet on his talks with the Paris Club for the rescheduling of Jordan's debts to creditor governments. The talks resulted in an agreement to reschedule the country's debts for periods ranging between 10 and 11 years with a five-year grace period. Jardaneh and Central Bank Governor Mohammad Said Nabulsi held a press conference Monday to report on the Paris talks.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

REGENT CONGRATULATES MUBARAK: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday sent a cable of good wishes to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on his country's National Day. He wished the president continued health and happiness and further progress and prosperity for the Egyptian people. The Regent Friday evening received a message from North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh addressed to His Majesty King Hussein. The message which was conveyed by Yemeni Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Iryani dealt with Arab affairs and North Yemeni-Jordanian relations. (Petra)

CABINET DECISIONS: The Cabinet, meeting Saturday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, endorsed a Jordanian-British memorandum of understanding under which Britain grants Jordan \$247,000 worth of technical aid to go to the Natural Resources Authority. This aid will be used for establishing a data base for geological sciences, exploration of thermal energy, and establishing a cartography department at the NRA. The cabinet also endorsed an amendment to the formation of Islamic courts law. The Cabinet also decided to appoint Jawdat Shout, Salamah Hamad and Khalaf Maharmeh as governors at the Ministry of Interior. (Petra)

NSOUR MEETS DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS: Education Minister Abdullah Nsour called on departments in various provinces to rationalise spending on school requirements. He told a meeting for the directors of education in his office that the government spends JD 100 million annually on educational programmes, and the Ministry of Education has built 120 schools over the past few years and organised training courses and offered scholarships to improve the performance of teachers at all levels. The minister urged the directors to help implement the resolutions of the first national educational conference held in Amman in 1987, and bring about a qualitative improvement in the education system. (Petra)

38 DIE IN 2,327 ROAD ACCIDENTS: A total of 38 people died and 718 others injured in 2,327 road accidents which occurred in Jordan in June 1989, according to the Traffic Department here Saturday. A statement said that the figures register a drop by 51 accidents and 66 in the number of injured, compared with June 1988.

A DAY OF FASTING: In response to a call by the United Leadership of the Intifada, 13 branches of the Palestinian Women's Union in Jordan Thursday observed a day of fasting. (J.T.)

DHIBAN HOUSING PROJECT COMPLETED: Housing Corporation Director General Yousef Hyasat Friday said that the Dhiban housing project has been completed and that applications for purchase of residential units will begin Saturday. The project consists of forty four units, the area of each ranges between 79 square metres to 133 square metres, he added. The cost of every unit, he said, ranges between JD 9,500 to 13,750 to be paid by instalment over a period of thirty years. Priority will be given to Madaba region employees and residents, he noted. (Petra)

RSS to establish centre for environmental research

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) is to establish a specialised national centre to deal with environmental research programmes, according to a statement issued here Saturday.

It said that His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, who is also chairman of the Higher Council for Science and Technology (HCST), has given his consent for the creation of the national centre which will be of three divisions: The water and soil division, the air and dangerous materials division and the natural environment division.

The statement noted that the three divisions will be fitted with laboratories and all essential equipment for their operations. The projected centre will be

charged with carrying out research programmes on the environment and providing consultancy services and advice, especially concerning the contamination of water and soil, dealing with dangerous chemical substances and in matters related to the natural environment, the statement noted.

It said that the centre will follow up research studies conducted around the world and present information that will benefit the Kingdom.

The purpose of such a centre, the statement noted, is "to help protect the environment in Jordan and provide information on the recycling of treated water."

It said that the centre would launch close cooperation with other scientific institutions in Jordan and abroad.

12 Jordanians die of old age during pilgrimage

AMMAN (J.T.) — A total of 12 Jordanian pilgrims died of old age and four others were seriously and permanently injured in road accidents during this year's pilgrimage season in Mecca, according to Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat.

The minister, who headed Jordan's official mission to the pilgrimage season earlier this month, was speaking after returning home Friday.

He said that a total of 20,000 Jordanian pilgrims performed the rites in Mecca and Medina this year and they all benefited from services provided by the official mission.

The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs had arranged for the transportation and accommodation of the pilgrims in Mecca and Medina; and according to the minister, their living quarters were only three kilometres away from the Kaaba Shrine, thus, further facilitating their pilgrimage.

The minister paid tribute to the Saudi Arabian authorities which were instrumental in making this year's pilgrimage a total success. He said that the local companies, which undertook to transport and put up the pilgrims in the holy cities, strictly abided by their agreements with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, and that air-conditioned buses were made available for the trip to and from the holy places.

The minister said that old age and the intense heat in Saudi Arabia were responsible for the death of the 12 pilgrims.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITION

★ An art exhibition by three Arab artists representing Bahrain, Syria and Jordan at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.

POETRY RECITAL

★ Poetry recital by Arab poets Shawqi Badi, Ali Shargawi, Mohammed Abu Doma, Lame' Al Hurr, Jawad Hatib, Jamna Al Qureini and Lahib Abdul Qader at the Abdul Hamid Shomaa Foundation — 7:30 p.m.

FILM

★ A feature film entitled "E.T. — The Extra Terrestrial" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.

Jordan invited to attend U.N. 'education for all' conference in Bangkok

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The United Nations organisation has extended an invitation to Jordan to send a delegation to the "education for all" international conference which will convene in Bangkok in March 1990.

Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker who received the invitation said in a statement that Jordan welcomes the idea and is keen on participating in such an important international meeting to promote the spread of education worldwide.

The invitation was presented formally to the prime minister by Dr. Ali Atiq, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) representative in Jordan. Mr. Richard Reid, director of the regional office of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and Dr. Mohammad Ibrahim Kazem, general coordinator at the regional office of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

The three U.N. officials expressed their respective organisations' deep appreciation to Jordan for its endeavours to promote the educational process at the regional and international levels.

According to a U.N. official in Amman the projected conference will deal with problems pertaining to illiteracy, the quality of education, educational management and educational financing. He said that the conference presents a good chance for the participants to hold dialogues on problems related to "education for all" and to try to benefit from experiences of other nations.

Such a committee would draw up policies for cooperation among farm cooperatives, and boost these cooperatives' joint efforts at the regional and international levels, according to a statement issued at the end of the meeting Saturday.

The statement recommended that the higher committee should convene once every six months in any one of the ACC countries to follow cooperatives operations

and activities.

The meeting recommended also that the four countries carry out joint "cooperative projects" such as pasture lands, livestock schemes and increase production of improved seeds, facilitate the exchange of agricultural products, boost agricultural industries, conduct joint research programmes on increasing the output and exchange expertise and visits by officials and farmers' representatives.

The delegates' final statement underlined the role of cooperative organisations in implementing agricultural policies in the four (ACC) states, and called on the four governments to help provide training and education to members of cooperative

According to the official, the conference was expected to reach a consensus on means of dealing with educational problems in the coming decades.

The official added that the conference could also discuss an international charter on education, emphasising the need for all governments to provide basic education for all people.

According to the Ministry of Education estimates here Jordan's illiteracy rate now stands at 15 per cent of the population but it is expected to reach 10 per cent by the turn of the century once additional illiteracy eradication programmes have been carried out in cooperation with Arab, international and United Nations organisations.

In 1987, the national education conference called for the elimination of the causes and sources of illiteracy.

It recommended that illiteracy

Cooperatives in ACC states seek to coordinate operations

AMMAN (Petra) — Heads of farm cooperatives in Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries — which includes Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen — have wound up a three-day meeting here by issuing a call on the four countries to set up a higher committee to coordinate the cooperatives' operations.

Such a committee would draw up policies for cooperation among farm cooperatives, and boost these cooperatives' joint efforts at the regional and international levels, according to a statement issued at the end of the meeting Saturday.

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The delegates' final statement underlined the role of cooperative organisations in implementing agricultural policies in the four (ACC) states, and called on the four governments to help provide training and education to members of cooperative

organisations to help them carry out successful projects.

Furthermore, the delegates called for unified legislations concerning the work of cooperative organisations in the ACC states. They urged governments to help draw up sound production and marketing strategies and avoid competition among the ACC cooperatives, to help achieve the aspired integration.

The heads of the farm cooperatives will Sunday visit projects carried out by the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) in the Irbid area.

These include a sheep fattening project, a pilot project for producing improved seeds and a workshop for repairing farm equipment.

AACO team to set up pan-Arab comprehensive distribution system

AMMAN (J.T.) — A technical committee set up by the Arab Air Carriers Organisation (AACO) met here Saturday to discuss setting up a unified pan-Arab comprehensive distribution system which would provide automatic booking services for Arab airlines and tourist and travel offices.

The committee groups representatives of airlines from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Egypt, Syria, North Yemen, the United Arab Emirates and Iraq as well as Jordan.

AACO Secretary General Adli Dajani opened the meeting by referring to the importance of this pioneering project and highlighted its advantages and positive results.

He said that once the Arab World is linked through this advanced system, "better services can be provided to passengers at all times".

The AACO seeks to achieve integration among Arab airlines in the face of strong competition by foreign companies; and "this projected modern system is bound to contribute towards the attainment of this goal," Dajani noted.

Saturday's meeting was a follow up to one held in Kuwait last month during which an agreement was reached on referring the project's feasibility study to a consultancy firm.

At present the four universities run summer courses for their students at various levels, but the 1989-1990 academic year will not begin before September.

The Ministry of Education Friday announced the general results of the Tawjihi examinations for the 1988-1989 scholastic year, taken by 58,618 students in various streams.

According to Ministry of Higher Education sources, many of the new school graduates with grades above the 65 per cent level will no doubt try to get seats at the four universities to attain higher education.

Jordan earns JD 230m from tourism last year

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan was visited by 600,000 tourists and visitors last year, earning the Kingdom some JD 230 million, Minister of Tourism Yanal Hikmat said in a statement published here Saturday.

Last year's visitors to the Kingdom increased by 28 per cent over those that came in 1987; and out of the JD 230million earned through their stay, JD 52 million were in net surplus of profit, the minister said in his statement published in the Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily.

"It is hoped that the new measures that are being taken to stimulate tourism in Jordan, further contributions by the private sector tourist and travel offices and the recent agreement between Jordan and Egypt to launch joint tourist ventures in Sinai and southern Jordan, will yield fruitful results and will increase the Kingdom's annual revenues," the minister noted.

He said Jordan and Egypt have reached agreement on developing tourist facilities and transportation through the Aqaba-Nuweibeh land-sea route and to jointly publish and distribute pamphlets and booklets highlighting archaeological and touristic sites in both countries, to be distributed abroad in a bid to promote tourism.

Hikmat noted however that the Ministry of Tourism does not carry out tourist projects as such, but it rather helps the private sector to do that by providing the essential infrastructure such as roads, telephone lines, electricity and water services, and by conducting investment feasibility studies on tourist projects in selected areas.

The minister said that the ancient Nabatean city of Petra and the Dead Sea are both of immense importance to the country as they continually attract increasing numbers of tourists.

"Therefore, the Forum Hotel in Petra will have 60 additional rooms and the rest house near the Dead Sea will be expanded so as to absorb more tourists," the minister pointed out.

He said that other expansion projects, which are now underway, are expected to boost the hotel accommodation capacity by 800 rooms.

Aqaba, which is a major attraction centre for Jordanians and foreigners between October and



Yanal Hikmat

May each year, is expected to add 1,000 rooms to its present hotel accommodation capacity in the coming two years, Hikmat noted.

He said that a local society in Rum, in southern Jordan, is building facilities for tourists, and two hotels are being set up in Irbid and Kamtha in the northern regions of Jordan, all carried out by the private sector.

"At present, the Ministry of Tourism is maintaining cooperation with Aqaba Region Author-



Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Saturday receives UNDP representative in Amman Dr. Ali Atiq, UNICEF Director Richard Reid and the UNESCO's general coordinator at the regional office, Dr. Mohammad Ibrahim Kazem, at the Prime Ministry (Petra photo)

eradication campaigns be conducted for those over 50 years of age.

Last February, UNESCO launched the first regional programme for the universalisation

and renewal of primary education and for the eradication of illiteracy in the Arab World by the year 2000.

Minister of Education Abdullah Nsour said earlier this month

that more than a million students will be going to school in Jordan in August 1989 and that nearly 30,000 new students will be entering schools for the first time in their lives.



Minister of Agriculture Adnan Badran (second from left) Saturday receives heads of ACC countries' agricultural cooperatives (Petra photo)

Another aircraft with medical, food supplies leaves for Sudan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank (IDB) has donated \$2 million to finance development projects in Sudan, implemented by Jordanian companies, according to Dr. Abdul Salam Abbadi rapporteur of a national committee for supporting the Sudanese people.

"The Jordanian firms also marked many of their products through the implementation of these projects and earned for Jordan much needed foreign currency," Abbadi said in a statement upon seeing off another Jordanian aircraft loaded with medical and food supplies and equipment destined for Sudan.

The aircraft carried the 22nd Jordanian medical mission and the Third technical team involved in carrying out the development and reconstruction programme in Sudan.

Abbadi who deputised for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, said that the teams will finalise the projects started in Sudan by Jordanian experts and technicians several years ago during the drought and famine that hit the Arab African country.

"In fact, financing for the missions came through two sources of which one was the donations from Jordanian citizens collected through a campaign launched by the National Committee. The second source for financing

schemes, which include water and electricity networks and drilling of artesian wells, was the Islamic Bank," Abbadi noted.

He said that Jordanian missions are being sent upon Prince Hassan's instructions in a genuine display of solidarity with the Arab people of Sudan.

The National Committee has now received an offer to carry out a large-scale artesian well drilling operation in Sudan, employing Jordanian manpower, Abbadi noted.

He said the offer came from the Islamic Bank which also pledged to finance the whole operation.

In addition, Abbadi said, the national committee, in coordination with the Islamic Bank will soon embark on establishing a telecommunications network.

linking five airports in western Sudan at the cost of JD 100,000, also to be financed by the IDB.

The Jordanian missions, Abbadi pointed out, have greatly contributed to cementing brotherly ties between Jordan and Sudan.

According to Abbadi, the medical mission groups 16 physicians, specialists and paramedics, while the third technical team groups 16 engineers and technicians.

On board the aircraft was an unspecified amount of medical and relief supplies and spare parts for the machinery and equipment already installed in Sudan.

Present at the airport to see off the mission was Sudan's ambassador to Jordan Mahjoub Radwan and officials from the Ministry of Health.

ADVERTISEMENT

For Parties Interested In Importing CORDLESS TELEPHONES

The Telecommunications Corporation had previously promised to lay down a set of standard specifications for cordless telephones in order to regulate the importation and utilization of this type of equipment in a manner compatible with the national telephone network, and in such a way to secure the proper utilization, and the non-interference between the lines of the various users of these sets.

It is now our pleasure to declare that it is possible for parties interested in the importation of this type of equipment to obtain a set of detailed specifications for those telephones which are acceptable for importation and utilization in Jordan, provided that the importer undertakes to provide TCC with following before contracting for purchase:-

- A complete set of the technical offer as received from the manufacturers.
- A returnable sample of each offered type or design.

TCC shall then study and scrutinize the technical offer to ensure that it is in compliance with the above mentioned specifications, and to test the submitted sample for proper functioning. Once the offer is found to be in compliance with the specifications, TCC shall inform the importer, in writing, and also advertise the particular "type approval" in the local papers, as well as informing the concerned official parties to facilitate the importation of the type (or types) which are technically acceptable. The importer can then proceed with the purchase in the proper way, and also promote the sale of the approved types in the local market.

Director General
Eng. Mohammad Shahid Ismail

Note: Copies of the specifications may be obtained from the "Secretary of Tender Committee", for a fee of JD 5 per copy.

Jordan Times

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Commemorate July 21

WASFI Yassia Ibrahim is the most recent casualty of firearms used at weddings. He was only eighteen when a stray bullet, fired at a wedding to express joy and celebration, hit and killed him. Everytime a man or woman gets killed at Jordanian weddings, the interest and concern of Jordanians to stop this maddening tradition get aroused but, alas, only temporarily. No sooner than the victim gets buried than the public outcry against the use of bullets to express joy and happiness gets buried too. What the country needs, therefore, is determination and an ongoing effort to root out this outrageous habit of shooting wildly on occasions of marriage. This should take the form of a more forceful policy on the part of the government to outlaw the use of any weapons at weddings irrespective of whether or not the user of such a weapon has a licence to own and carry a gun. Special legislation to that effect should consider even the entry of armed people to weddings as a crime.

Parallel with legislation, our educational and information systems, schools and the mass media, must be recruited to educate people against this nasty habit. Instead of having our students learn by heart irrelevant stories and poetry, they should be taught at the most tender age the evils of negative and archaic traditions that always bring tragedies to our homes. Hopefully by the time they become parents, they would act more out of conviction about the imminent dangers of using firearms in public places than out of fear of prosecution.

This abuse of weddings is now temporarily uppermost on the minds of concerned Jordanians of all walks of life. Let us all seize upon the sad occasion of the death of Wasfi Yassia Ibrahim, by a "happy bullet", to eradicate this criminal custom once and for all. Let us all commemorate the death of Mr. Ibrahim as a symbol of our fight against the killing of other Jordanians on future occasions. In fact why not just commemorate July 21 of every year as the day of the end of the slaughter of innocent Jordanians at Jordanian weddings?

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Saturday compared the Israeli media to that of Nazi Germany during the World War II in terms of falsehoods and fabricated reports. It seems that those in charge of the Israeli media have learnt a lot from the Nazi tactics and become professionals, the paper noted. Al Ra'i said that the latest fabricated report in the Israeli media was about the Jordanian dinar which, according to the Zionists, will soon be transformed into a pound. These fabricated reports, the paper noted, reflect the malice and hostile attitude towards the Arabs in general and Jordan in particular, because the Kingdom has so far resisted pressures to conclude a separate peace treaty with Israel and continues to help the Palestinian people in their efforts to regain freedom. Jordan has foiled George Shultz's plans that aimed to liquidate the Palestine problem, severed relations with the West Bank to boost the PLO's image and recognised the Palestine state, said the paper. But most importantly Israel's continued endeavours to convene an international Middle East peace conference to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict, a call which is strongly resisted by Israel which is offering the Shamir election plan election that cannot be accepted by the Arab Nation, the daily continued. These false reports about Jordan are being put about, the paper said, with a clear intention to destabilise the Kingdom and shake the people's confidence in their nation.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily tackles the Iraq-Iran conflict which is not settled yet, despite the lapse of more than a year since Iran's acceptance of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598. Abdul Rahim Omar says the resolution was open and clear and called for negotiations to bring about a lasting settlement, not a mere ceasefire which is now in effect. It is true that the war has now stopped and that U.N. supervision forces are guarding the frontlines and that some of the prisoners were exchanged, but there is no permanent peace, since Iran has not yet responded to reason and has not taken any firm steps to implement the resolution in full, the writer notes. For its part, Iraq has been calling for a final settlement and a total peace, although it could have continued the fighting and brought the Iranian nation to its knees, the writer adds. He notes that since Iran is now amassing troops along the confrontation lines with Iraq and in view of Tehran's intransigence, one can only look to the Arab and Islamic nation to exercise pressure on the Iranian regime to desist from carrying out new adventures that would bring its people more disasters.

Al Dastour daily on Saturday dwelt on the outcome of a meeting just concluded in Amman by the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) foreign ministers. It said that the agreement reached by the ministers on coordinating future steps in diplomatic and foreign affairs is bound to contribute most positively to the general effort to arrive at total integration among the four countries. The four ministers, the paper noted, are pooling their efforts in order to implement the principles and objectives of the ACC charter which was worked out in Baghdad last February and to serve the Arab Nation at large. Once the Arab foreign ministers start to speak in one voice, Arab views will no doubt carry a heavier weight in international fora, and the Arab Nation will be more influential within the world community of nations, said the paper. This strategy is most needed now, added the paper, in order to give further momentum to ongoing efforts for ending the Arab-Israeli conflict and for helping the Palestinian people attain their legitimate rights.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Budget policy: The problem and the cure

SINCE the economic recession began in Jordan in mid 1982, loud voices have been calling for further expansion of the public sector, and increasing public expenditure. This expansion, they argued, was necessary to revitalise and activate the national economy, pump fresh liquidity into the market, counter economic recession, make up for the slack in the private sector's investments, create more jobs for the unemployed, among other similar reasons.

Under such pressure, the size of the central government's budget grew, not only in absolute figures, but also in relative terms, — at a faster rate than the growth of the national economy as a whole. Thus public expenditure rose from 44 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP) in 1984, to 50 per cent in 1987. The deficit in the budget rose sharply from 15 per cent of GDP in 1984 to 25 per cent in 1988.

Although domestic revenues were growing during this period, the expenditure grew much faster, which led the government to borrow both locally and externally to bridge the widening gap. It is evident now that the over-expansion in the size of the

public sector and its expenditure outlays and deficit was one of the major reasons behind the current economic and financial crisis. The deficit in the budget was naturally translated into a deficit in the balance of payments, and the creation of more money by the Treasury, through drawing on a topless overdraft account with the Central Bank, was eventually translated into imports and payments in foreign exchange.

In that case, and despite the conventional wisdom, domestic borrowing became more harmful than external borrowing, because external borrowing created liabilities on the country and its balance of payments in foreign exchange which would only be due in seven years time, while internal borrowing and monetary expansion created commitments on the country and its balance of trade and other invisible payments in foreign exchange, which were due within one year.

The half-hearted attempts to reduce public expenditure and bring deficit under control were confined to capital and developmental budget, i.e., deferring investments and giving priority for recurring expenditure and other consumption activities. That was

a short sighted policy, which admittedly may have alleviated recession and unemployment on the short term, but resulted in a huge cost on the longer term, as has now become evident.

At that time I called, in this very space, for a strict distinction between the international economic recession as part of a business cycle, and our own economic recession which was a shift to a new, lower level than the one prevailing before. I then stated in no ambiguous terms that if economic recession in the industrial world can be tackled by some expansion in the public sector and deficit financing, such a prescription would be wrong and very dangerous in the case of Jordan and must be avoided.

Jordan need not spend much time looking back. Only lessons and conclusions can be drawn from the past. One of the most important conclusions is that the crux of the problem of the Jordanian economy lies in the country's fiscal and the budgetary policies. Through the gap of the budget, the financial and economic hazards undermined our economic security. Consequently, only the firm reform of the financial policy and the budget structure can lead us back to the shores of safety.

Why Israel needs a gentle Palestinian victory

By Michael Kramer

AS diplomatic theory, its charm remains irresistible: the *intifada* is a blessing in disguise. A rising spiral of violence and economic dislocation will propel Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation to concessions deemed impossible before the Palestinian uprising began in December 1988. Get a peace process going, reason the U.S.'s Middle East savants. Any process. Get the parties a little bit pregnant, and there will be no turning back.

They are right about the pain, but they forget about the fear. In politics — and especially political negotiations — abortion is never illegal.

Israel's intercommunal war is steadily escalating. As in Lebanon, vigilante violence strikes innocents engaged in the most prosaic activities. As a result, people on both sides of the conflict have come to feel that even their individual survival hangs in the balance. Those who contend that the recent Palestinian attack on a bus full of civilians could be

something other than a foretaste of future horrors are urged to recall that after 18 months of sticks and stones, the *intifada* command last month instructed its followers to "kill a settler or a soldier for every martyr of our people." And those who dismiss the settlers' increasing resort to acts of revenge as the scattered expressions of madmen are similarly out of touch.

On the ground, the rhetoric of peace counts for nothing. Few Israelis believe that the vast distance travelled by Yasser Arafat toward a credible negotiating position is anything but a ruse. The PLO's apparent readiness to bless a peace initiative whose salient points are at best ambiguous is dismissed as derisively as its earlier recognition of Israel's right to exist. The majority of Israeli Jews scorn as naive the possibility that the Palestinians may finally have decided to "settle" for something short of everything. How could they? asks Yitzhak Shamir, the central problem has never changed: "We think the land is ours, and they

think it is theirs."

From this, the prime minister's bottom line, a dangerous notion transcends Israel's current internal political crisis. It is the idea that the *intifada* must be defeated rather than merely calmed.

Surprisingly, the insistence on victory comes from both ideological poles, but for very different reasons. On the right, the unstated premise is simply put: no more *intifada*, no more need for peace. Even then downside is welcomed. Given the undisputed hardening of opinion — especially among those Israelis and Palestinians who have reached their majority since Israel took the West Bank and Gaza in 1967 — failing to resolve the matter peacefully now will almost inevitably lead to another region-wide Arab-Israeli war. "Which we would win," says an aide to Ariel Sharon confidently. "And then we will be that much closer to the transfer." — Israeli-speak for kicking the Palestinians out of the territories once and for all.

On the left, a number of liberal-oriented senior army commanders — Israel's so-called dovish generals — justify an identical desire to win. Only by crushing the Palestinians, they say, can Israel assure that half a loaf will suffice. Says one: "From a military standpoint, with only a slight rectification of the present boundaries, we can certainly live with a demilitarised Palestinian state. But if they think they've won it from us rather than having had it granted to them out of our magnanimity, they will only be emboldened to strike for more later. Restraint would be fine if it weren't always seen as weakness."

This is another nice theory that misses the mark in practice. Winning produces a psychological high, all right, but it is often injurious to long-term stability. "This isn't like Viet Nam, where you resolve a situation and walk away," says the Israeli philosopher David Hartman. "Neither side is going anywhere. Give them peace after trampling them,

and all you'll breed is resentment, even among Israelis. A sense of misplaced paternalism antithetical to a healthy day after will creep in. Like fathers and sons, we'll always be saying, 'Look what we've made of you, you ungrateful scum!'"

What is needed, then is exactly what the dovish generals abhor, a Palestinian victory, but a mini one: a "victory" that accommodates the need to feel that an individual's accomplishments are earned through self-sacrifice, an affirmation of the Jewish notion of justice. Christianity is about grace; man is a sinner whom God loves in spite of his sins. Judaism invites a covenant in which God asks man to be responsible. At the same time, of course, a Palestinian victory must somehow quell the Arab sense of grandiosity that invariably distorts real power relationships. (He is mighty who controls himself, teaches the Talmud, a text with which most Arabs — and an increasing number of Israelis — are unfamiliar.)

Tactically, the *intifada* might be closer to victory if it muted its self-indulgent rhetoric, reined in its paramilitary operations and opted for civil disobedience: "sit-ins, traffic obstruction, hunger strikes, marches in which the only words spoken, 'We want peace,' are chanted repeatedly. "Right now," says Hartman, "our nerves are rubbed raw because when we walk about in our own land, we are constantly afraid that rats are going to attack us out of the shadows. Gandhi-like moves would drive Israel nuts and productively appeal to the guilt feelings that inhabit the core of Jewish existence."

Some statesmen would help too, leaders who recognise what Maimonides and Plato understood, that the greatest rulers are therapists because the highest statesmanship crafts solutions in which everyone wins. Unless and until Israelis realise that a Palestinian victory is theirs too, peace will never be at hand — Time magazine.

A way towards the saving of Lebanon

By James Zoghy

AS RELATIVE calm returns to Lebanon, I take some comfort in the fact that sporadic shellings and gunfire have replaced the savage warfare of the past two months. But with the settling of the smoke and dust comes the tragic realisation that the most recent round of fighting was for naught. Aoun's flight of fancy and Syria's fit of fury have only served to produce more dead, more wounded, and more damage to Lebanon and the spirit of its people. Apologists on all sides are dead wrong: this was no war of liberation; it was just another bloody chapter in Lebanon's long war with itself.

The simple fact is that there can be no military solution to Lebanon's political problems. Those on all sides who have chosen killing, as a way of saving Lebanon are producing the opposite result — they are, in fact, killing Lebanon.

Peel away the many layers that have accumulated since the conflict began and it remains, at its core, one arising out of the political and economic inequities of an outmoded system of governance, that gave preference to the elites of the Christian and Muslim

sects. As the injustices of this system intensified, the disenfranchised rebelled and those with power fought to maintain their hegemony, leading ultimately to a breakdown in national cohesion. While the initial rounds of fighting had an ideological and political character, increasingly the sectarian loyalties have come to dominate.

As each group sought to buttress its position by appealing to outside forces, the conflict became progressively more internationalised, as evidenced by the involvement of Syria, Israel, Iraq, Iran and, at times and to differing degrees, the United States and France — each picking a side. As a result Lebanon's unity is fractured and, in some areas, there is de facto cantonisation by sect.

At bottom, the military and political conflict requires a resolution of the fundamental issues of class and sect arising from the ancient regime: internal political reform aimed at creating national integration through a more democratic, more representative government. Any effort to by-pass this fundamental restructuring of Lebanon is doomed to failure. Those who have tried

to resolve the war in Lebanon short of such a restructuring have found themselves mired in the conflict: Syria since 1976, Israel since 1978 and the U.S. in 1982.

Currently there is great pressure for the U.S. to be involved again in Lebanon. This has been tried before, but because our involvement was unilateral and one-sided, the results were tragedy and failure. Appearing to support Israel's goals in Lebanon and becoming a combatant on behalf of a narrowly based and unrepresentative government resulted in the tragic death of our marines and the failed diplomacy of Shultz's 17 May, 1983 initiative.

Based on this past involvement, some counsel continued U.S. disengagement. I strongly disagree. With the exception of the brief period noted, this has been the approach of both the United States and the Soviet Union for most of the past 15 years, in which time Lebanon has been reduced to little more than the Cambodia of the Middle East.

Lebanon and regional and world peace have been the victims of such disengagement. In the political vacuum thus created in Lebanon, terror has run rampant.

Nine Americans and thousands of Lebanese are held in degrading captivity. Lebanon has become a vacant lot in which regional conflicts of all kinds are fought out by surrogate groups all too eager to carry out their appointed roles in exchange for weapons and support. Lebanon's people have been dismembered, disfigured and dispersed. Each new round of sectarian fighting creates new wounds, deepens divisions, and makes restoring Lebanon's unity more difficult to achieve.

The U.S. should become engaged in a comprehensive process to find a long-term solution to Lebanon's conflict. The outlines of such a U.S. engagement policy in Lebanon might include:

The United States cannot hope to assist in resolving the conflict by itself. Any long-term solution requires that the U.S. engage the Soviet Union and the Arab League as major actors that can work together to exert leverage on Lebanon's competing forces. The U.S. and USSR must work together, first to help support the recently negotiated Arab League ceasefire, then to bring about a withdrawal of all foreign forces and a drastic reduction in the

arming of these competing groups in Lebanon's civil war. When the U.S. and the USSR put their weight behind a local effort (in this instance, the Arab League initiative) as they did in southern Africa and the Iran-Iraq war, they can ensure progress towards peace.

Simply put, warfare in Lebanon cannot continue with its current intensity without the complicity of the great powers and/or their allies in providing arms to Lebanon's increasingly murderous militias and armies.

The United Nations has a vital role to play in bringing peace to Lebanon. First, there is the need for a reaffirmation of the Security Council's support for Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity. The U.N. must reaffirm its support for implementation of U.N. Resolution 425 (passed after the 1978 Israeli invasion); U.N. peace-keeping forces in Lebanon must be enabled to complete their mission and take positions in the so-called Israeli security zone — a euphemism for Israeli-occupied southern Lebanon. I feel that the role of these U.N. forces should be further expanded to replace the Syrian peace keeping forces in the north

and east of Lebanon.

As an incentive to Lebanon's leadership, an international commitment to massive reconstruction aid must be forthcoming. While such aid is out of the question at this time, I strongly suggest an immediate increase in humanitarian aid to private voluntary relief organisations for food, shelter and medical treatment. Lebanon's political problems cannot be resolved overnight but Lebanon's people have needs that must be met.

Such a long-term approach may not appeal to those who seek either a quick fix or punishment of one side or another. It is, however, only through such an approach that the fundamental political problems of Lebanon can be addressed and resolved. Only through political reform can the Lebanese regain their sense of confidence and their sense of national unity.

In other words, what must be restored for Lebanon to be restored is the will of its people to live together as one. It is toward this end that U.S. engagement should be directed; no other end is to our or Lebanon's advantage — Middle East International, London.

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Muslims in America fight drug dealers successfully

By Clare Pedrick

NEW YORK — In Brooklyn's Bedford-Stuyvesant area, a zone notorious for violent crime and drug dealing, a few Muslims have kept the law into their own hands in a bid to clean up their neighbourhood and make the streets safe for the community.

Worshippers of the At-Taqwa Mosque, including African-Americans, Indians, Nigerians, and Kuwaitis, have set up patrols to chase out the dealers who, they say, had turned their community into one of the most dangerous and crime-ridden areas of the city.

Code-named the Forty Day patrol — the name is taken from the Koran — the Muslim vigilante group has made it clear it is deadly serious in its declaration of war against the dealers. Many of its members are armed. By day, they have regular jobs as security guards, policemen and correctional officers. Others are trained in the martial arts. All of them are physically fit and ready to mete out the toughest possible punishment to anyone transgressing their code of moral behaviour. Said Abdul Malik, assistant imam at the mosque:

"As Muslims we have a duty to learn how to defend ourselves. Many of the brothers go to the gym for target practice each week. We also have a duty to take a moral stand to change the things that are wrong and make them right. Islam does not promote violence or terrorism, but we believe in an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth."

The Muslims' no-nonsense approach has produced swift results. Since they first began patrolling the streets 18 months ago, dealers selling crack — a highly addictive derivative of cocaine — have all but disappeared from the neighbourhood.

"Before we started the Forty Day Patrol this area had one of the highest crime and drug rates in the city," said Malik. "In this block alone there were 15 crack houses (buildings taken over for sale of drugs) and they were each averaging \$10,000 a week minimum in sales."

"If you walked out of the subway over the road from the mosque, it was difficult to get as far as the next corner without being topped and offered crack or coke for a dollar a shot. There were shoot-outs every day, and a rightfully high level of robberies. It was unbelievable."

On one occasion shots were fired at the mosque and a bullet lodged itself in the door-frame. It was soon afterwards that the Muslim community decided to act. "We could no longer tolerate that kind of situation. We had women and children coming here to pray," said Malik. "The police were doing nothing to tackle the problem. Some of the cops were



Abdul Malik, assistant imam at the At-Taqwa Mosque in Brooklyn, New York where Muslim worshippers have formed patrols to rid the neighbourhood of drug dealers.

actually taking bribes. There was a place right across the street where they used to go and collect their money. Once that kind of thing starts, it messes it up for the straight ones too. Drug dealers can't respect a police force when some of the cops are no better than themselves."

The relationship between the Muslim vigilantes and the police force is a sensitive one. Before starting the scheme, the mosque's imam, Siraj Wahhaj, was careful to explain his plan to police chiefs and seek their co-operation. He was equally careful to ensure that patrol members never stepped outside the law and that all weapons were regularly licensed. Even so, there has been some hostility, report Muslim leaders.

"In the beginning, some of the police were negative about the idea," Assistant Imam Malik recalled. "They felt that we were taking over their jobs and implying they were incompetent. But as the patrol became established, some of them started coming into the mosque to see us and drink coffee. One Irish cop even told me he was pleased with what we were doing because he felt safe coming into this area for the first time ever."

Rovers

When the Forty Day patrol first began patrolling the streets a group of 50 volunteers, nicknamed "Rovers", took it in turns to provide a round-the-clock guard in the half-a-square-mile area immediately surrounding the At-Taqwa Mosque. "We put between four and 10 men outside every building where we knew crack was being sold, and on every street corner," said Malik. "They stayed there in the rain,

the sun and the snow, even when it was freezing cold. Some of them worked shifts as long as 12 hours at a stretch. Quite a few were so dedicated to the idea of the patrol that they actually gave up their jobs to make sure it worked."

Other "Rovers" went into shops in the neighbourhood which were known to be selling drugs and plastic pipes for smoking crack. "In the average general store around here you could buy crack and the paraphernalia for smoking it," said Malik. "We made it a point of going into the stores and standing behind each customer to make sure he wasn't buying drugs. Some of them became very nervous and turned around to walk out. We would explain to them that they could no longer buy drugs in this neighbourhood... We even approached some of the drug dealers themselves and let them know what we would no longer tolerate them selling drugs, and that we would deal with them at any cost if they continued."

Within just 10 days the word spread that the area near the mosque was off-limits for drug dealers and users, says Malik. After three months, the Muslims scaled down their patrol, while still keeping a visible presence on the streets as a deterrent.

Today, the neighbourhood near the mosque still looks rundown, with dozens of houses abandoned, their windows boarded or bricked up. For anyone who knew the area before, however, the difference is enormous. Those same empty houses were once used by the crack

dealers — often rented out by absentee landlords tired of asking the police to step in and clean things up. Very slowly, says Malik, some of those owners are beginning to move back.

Malik attributes the success of his patrol to the commitment of the Muslims who mount it. The "Rovers" matched force with force, he said, and the dealers respected them. Incidentally, not one single case was reported of an act of violence towards the patrol members, even though there had been numerous shoot-outs with police in the past.

"I think they realised that we as Muslims are not like other people," said Malik. "They understood that we were willing to fight back to the end, regardless of the cost, and even to die, since death is not something that needs to be feared by someone who really believes."

"If we had been shot at, we were well prepared. We had cars patrolling, and everyone had radios. We even had brothers up on the roofs," he added. "One thing we were expecting was for the dealers to come screaming through the block in a car, and stage a shoot-out. In fact, it never happened, but if it had, they would never have left the block."

Since they mounted the patrol, at least five former dealers have actually given up drugs and converted to the Muslim faith. They now worship at the mosque, says Malik. Another unexpected offshoot was the reaction of other groups in the community. "We've had people from Jewish and Christian backgrounds coming up

to us and asking to participate," said Malik. "It's been inspirational how the community has shown its support for us. We even had a group of women who were taking karate classes come and join the patrol."

Critics of the scheme complain that the Muslim vigilantes have done little more than push the drug dealers out of their area, and into adjoining neighbourhoods. Malik admits the patrol itself will not solve New York's drug problem, but he is impatient with people who refuse to take any steps to improve the situation.

"In our view, other people in other neighbourhoods should make a stand like us and take the same initiative," he said.

Encouraged by the success of their operation, the "Rovers" have already begun helping other Muslim communities set up similar operations in the city. At a housing project in Brooklyn, five minutes' walk from the At-Taqwa Mosque, 72 families have seen their apartment block transformed from a dirty and dangerous haunt for drug-peddlers into a safe and respectable building.

"We started patrolling there, and it's now spotless in every sense," said Malik. "It looks like a place where people could live, and where people would want to live."

Two blocks away, the Forty Day patrol has helped organise another vigilante group. Out on Long Island, they have trained more volunteers to police a drug-ridden neighbourhood.

As their fame has spread, New Yorkers from outside the Muslim community have begun asking the "Rovers" for help. In recent months, the demand has become so acute that a group of At-Taqwa worshippers has set up a small security company. For a fee, the organisation will provide 24-hour guards for any area or building, and give advice on how to stamp out crime and violence in the neighbourhood.

Said Malik: "People have started calling us from all over the city asking us to rid their buildings of crack dealers and users. You could say we've become the crack hotline for the city. A lot of buildings have a budget set aside for security and protection, so we have begun offering our services for a fee, assisting in setting up the structure, organising the patrols and providing limited manpower."

"Of course it's not a solution to the drug problem. We see it more as a stepping stone," he added. "But as long as there are people out there making the streets dangerous for others who live there, we see it as our duty as Muslims to sit up and do something about it" — *World News Link*.



1992, year of hopes — and fears

FOR THE European Economic Community, 1992 will be a significant year. It is the target date set for the next stage in its evolution — the creation of a single, internal market out of its 12 member-states.

Austria and Cyprus have indicated that they intend to apply formally for membership of the Community, a request already submitted by Turkey. Other potential applicants include Norway, Sweden and Finland.

Meanwhile, for the USSR — and consequently those countries within the Soviet orbit — 1992 could prove to be a markedly different milestone. One Soviet economist has voiced the fear that his country is heading for economic disaster in three years' time unless Draconian measures are introduced.

But Nikolai Shmelyov does not think that the leadership will take the necessary steps. He is one of a number of Soviet economists who are calling for radical reforms. An advocate of an open, mixed economy, Shmelyov has been using the platform provided by his membership of the new Congress of People's Deputies to ensure that his views reach the widest possible audience.

He told the assembly: "I am afraid for the next two or three years. If we can survive these years without financial chaos or crisis, then the longer term is assured." But to get over those critical years the USSR would need to borrow \$30 billion from the West.

These funds should be used to modernise outdated industrial plant. An immediate injection of about \$15 billion was required, Shmelyov added. However, his advice is unlikely to be heeded judging from recent remarks by the prime minister, Nikolai Ryzhkov.

After disclosing that the Soviet foreign debt now amounted to \$4 billion roubles (more than \$50 billion), he said that the country should be cautious about resorting to further borrowing.

Nevertheless, Shmelyov's is far from being a lone voice. If what appears in the media is a true reflection, most Soviet economists take a gloomy view of the state of the economy. The published results for the first quarter of the year seem to have confirmed their worst fears.

Undoubtedly, the USSR's economic straits and the ethnic "powder-keg" represent the most crucial and daunting problems facing President Gorbachev and his fellow-reformers.

Premier Ryzhkov has also admitted that the Kremlin's ill-fated military adventure in Afghanistan cost five billion roubles (\$7.8 billion) a year and has seriously aggravated the USSR's financial deficit. On this basis, the total bill from the invasion in December, 1979, to the completion of the withdrawal last February, amounted to around \$70 billion.

Earlier, Army General Alexei Lizichev, a senior member of the General Staff, had spelt out the cost in human terms. Soviet losses, he said, were 13,310 killed with another 35,478 wounded and 311 missing.

However, the huge financial cost of the war was partly offset by Moscow's exploitation of Afghanistan's vast mineral resources, especially its natural gas.

Ninety-five per cent of gas production from the Sheberghan fields in the northern provinces of Jozjan and Balkh is being piped direct across the border into Soviet Central Asia and paid for at prices that have generally been well below the world average.

Soviet engineers have also been mining a variety of other minerals for export to the USSR. Although the official Afghan news agency in January, 1984, denied that there were any uranium deposits in Afghanistan, Kabul Radio had shortly before included uranium in a list of minerals that were being mined "with Soviet co-operation."

An Afghan geological engineer who defected to Pakistan that year confirmed that Soviet specialists were mining uranium in the Khwaja Rawash mountains near Kabul.

The USSR is developing a massive cooper-mining operation at Ainak, south of Kabul, for which an electricity power line has been specially constructed from the frontier, and Afghan regime sources have disclosed that elsewhere Soviet engineers are involved in the mining of fluorite, barytes, magnesite, talc, graphite and asbestos — *Lion features*.

Thriller prince — Costa Gavras

By Mary Blume

PARIS — Costa Gavras makes thrillers, and perhaps his success lies in giving this hard-bitten action-packed form the urgency of an SOS cry of distress.

"Between the Greek tragedy in which I was born and the Hollywood film on which I was nourished, the thriller is natural to me," Gavras said in the Paris studio where he is editing his new film, "Music Box". His definition of the term is wide: "The Grapes of Wrath" is a thriller, he says, if not in conventional terms.

His first film, "Sleeping Car Murders", was a simple whodunit. He then moved on to the political thriller with the Academy Award-winning "Z", about the Greece of the colonels; "The Confession", set in Stalinist Czechoslovakia; "State of Siege", set in Uruguay; "Special Section", about Vichy, France, and "Missing", set in Pinochet's Chile.

"Missing", with Jack Lemmon, was Gavras' first American film. While deeply political, it could more handily be called a moral thriller, like his latest release, "Betrayed", about neofascism in the American heartland. "Music Box", which he is editing in Paris after shooting in Chicago and Budapest, develops the theme of

private responsibility within the framework of a story about a young woman lawyer's defence of her father, an Illinois steelworker accused of war crimes in his native Hungary.

Jessica Lange plays the daughter, with the German actor Armin Mueller-Stahl as the devoted father who raised the girl after her mother's death. In her courtroom defence the daughter manages to weaken much of the evidence more on form than on content, Gavras says, but she is increasingly stricken by doubt: "It is a little the tragedy of a girl who comes to know her father and must take a stand."

Produced by Irwin Winkler, "Music Box" has a script by Joe Eszterhas that is in part based on the recent case of John Demjanjuk, the Ukrainian-born retired autoworker from Cleveland sentenced to death for crimes in the Treblinka extermination camp. Gavras, who does intensive research to inform himself as well as to defend his films after release, says he came to "Music Box" thinking its story would be remote to Americans.

Then I read Allan Ryan's "Quieter Neighbours", which is overwhelming. After the war, 10,000 war criminals managed to get to the U.S., an extraordinary number. One thought they were

all in Latin America."

The thriller element in "Music Box" is less in tracking down the evidence than in exploring the relationship between father and daughter. "It is a thriller in the sense that it is the daughter's discovery of her father. It is something that on a different level can happen all the time. We don't really know our parents' lives, we cannot imagine them making love, we see them more as images than as human beings."

"I think there is an element of the thriller in all human relations. The thriller is a curiosity we have in life. I remember in Greece I had a teacher who used to say that the difference between animals and men is that if he is in a valley a man will always try to see what is on the other side of the mountain, while the animal will stay where he is. The thriller is that."

The thrill

A naturalised French citizen, Gavras came to Paris as a film student and worked as an assistant to Rene Clair, Rene Clement, Marcel Ophuls and Jacques Demy. Thanks to Simone Signoret and Yves Montand, he was able to make "Sleeping Car Murders" and Montand later starred in "Z". "The Confession" and "State of Siege."

What attracts him about working in the United States, he says, is not a big budget, which he neither wants nor needs, but more space for ideas. "I film as I do in France, but what I find in America is subjects I can handle in the way I want to handle them. In the U.S. a film can be a cry, in France one tends more to be wry or ironic. I think the U.S. corresponds more to my view of things."

Viewed askance in some quarters for his leftist politics (he has been called "Marxist scum" and was unsuccessfully sued for \$10 million after "Missing"), Gavras says the United States "is like a galaxy in which there are many stars and people of all sorts." His political views cannot be narrowly confined — he praised the honest rightist judge in "Z" and slated the Communist regime in "The Confession" — and he always lets his collaborators know his intentions.

"I explain at the start what I plan to do, so everything is clear. On 'Music Box' I told it all to Jessica and to Irwin and at that point it is yes or no."

Gavras said no some years back to an offer to direct "The Godfather," a decision he doesn't regret because he says he could not have done it as well as Francis Coppola did and because he did



Costa Gavras: Works "between the Greek tragedy in which I was born and the Hollywood film on which I was nourished."

not know America well enough at the time. More important, he wasn't sure about the subject matter. "I had my doubts because it was a film about the Mafia that never spoke about drugs."

Just as the thriller attracts him not for its solution but for the questions it asks, so the wrongdoers who interest him are not in crime rings. "Organised crime is part of life, unfortunately. The important thing is legal crime because we choose our leaders. When evil people hold official positions like the colonels in 'Z', they are much more responsible than ordinary criminals."

The notions of civic duty and patriotism inform Gavras' films, making melodrama tragic. In "Betrayed" the Kian farmer says, "I just want the country I grew up in, that's all," and Gavras explores the resonances of such a phrase. "One's idea of one's country is

like a flag," he says. "It can hide many things."

In "Music Box" the point is less war crimes than the traces they leave. "That's why I wanted to do the film, because of the relations of father and daughter and because it's a film about memory. It's much more about memory than punishment."

His films open our eyes to frightful misdeeds, but he does not make them with a view to bringing about change. "I meet people who say your film changed my life, which is something it frightens me to hear. I think it should take more than that to change a person's life, or less."

"I don't want that responsibility. I make films as I feel them, with passion or aggressivity or candor. I never made one that I thought would cause a change." — *International Herald Tribune*

Agatha Christie's Poirot — Episode 1 "Clapham Cook"

JTV CHANNEL 2 PREVIEW: On Sunday at 10:20 Poirot returns with a new episode entitled, The Adventure of the Clapham Cook in which a respectable cook does not return to work in suburban London from a day off. A city bank clerk absconds with £50,000. Initially Poirot can find no apparent connection between the two except that a lodger in the cook's house works in the same bank as the vanished clerk. The photograph above shows Davis Suchet as Hercule Poirot (right) and Hugh Fraser as Hastings in their quest to solve the mystery. On Monday, at 9:10, the miniseries Around the World in 80 Days continues with a new episode in which Fogg, who is tailed by Fix, and desperate to get to Yokohama, convinces Captain Bunsby to take them as far as Shanghai on his weatherbeaten ship, the Tankadere. A storm sends the captain and the crew overboard, but Fogg, Aouda and Fix escape in a lifeboat. In China, the travellers are captured by the royal guards but Aouda's royal blood saves their lives. They make their way to Yokohama where they find Passepartout performing in a circus. Gentlemen and Players continues at 10:20, with the town's inhabitants fight off an oil drilling project on their lands. A new miniseries starts Tuesday at 9:10 entitled: My Wicked, Wicked Way — the Legend of Errol Flynn: A programme on the life and career of the great actor who started his work in Hollywood in the early 1930s. On Wednesday at 10:20 there will be another miniseries entitled Jack the Ripper, starring Michael Caine, Armand Assante and Jamie Seymour. This major miniseries follows the investigations of Detective Inspector Frederick Abberline and his efforts to corner an elusive quarry. Impeded by increasing widespread hysteria and rumours, Abberline encounters interference from the highest authorities while the killings continue. Taunting the police, the killer scatters numerous clues in his wake, fuelling a public outcry for an answer to the question which remains today: Who was Jack the Ripper? The Army of Shadows is the feature film Thursday at 10:20, starring Lino Ventura, Jean-Pierre Cassel and Simone Signoret. This is a gripping story of the French resistance during the German occupation of France. Finally, Friday at 8:30 Guinness Book of Records returns with a new batch of world records.

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مكتبة الأمل

IMF wins unusual praise from Egypt

CAIRO (R) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) won rare praise from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, one of its most caustic critics in the past.

"The whole world spares no effort in helping Egypt and standing by it, as well as economic institutions foremost of which is the IMF," he told party supporters in Cairo.

"They (the institutions) know that Egypt is unique in representing the key to stability in the Middle East," said Mubarak, quoted by Egypt's Middle East News Agency.

Mubarak, who last year likened the IMF to a "quack doctor," told the annual conference of his ruling National Democratic Party why Egypt needed agreement with the fund over proposed economic reforms.

"The IMF gives an international certificate stating the strength of the Egyptian economy which means rescheduling the debts — that gives greater ability to de-

velop and increase employment," the agency quoted him as saying. An IMF official left Cairo earlier this month saying he was optimistic about an accord that would help Egypt reschedule part of its \$50 billion debt and win new credits.

Cash is urgently needed to help Egypt feed, house and clothe its population, estimated at nearly 60 million and growing by about a million every seven months.

Mubarak has long resisted IMF calls for cuts in state subsidies on food and energy, fearing price rises would spark social upheaval similar to the so-called bread riots of 1977.

The party's annual conference is focused this year on unemployment, which the government estimates at 1.1 million. Unofficial estimates range from two to four million.



Central Bank of Jordan Deputy Governor Michael Hindi (left) and Housing Bank Chairman Zahar Khoury (Petra photo).
Marto (centre) Saturday addresses a banking seminar flanked by ABU Secretary-General Adnan Al

Prominent bankers highlight challenges facing Arab banks

AMMAN (Petra) — Arab banks are now going through very sensitive circumstances which present a major challenge to them at the local, regional and international levels, according to a senior Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) official.

The bank's deputy governor Michael Marto blamed the present situation on a retreat in Arab oil income and a shrinking of Arab financial resources.

Marto said that such conditions call for joint efforts to study means of promoting operations by Arab banks and financial institutions to enable them to offer the best possible services at the lowest possible cost.

Marto said that a united Europe, which is expected to

emerge in 1992, presents yet another major challenge for the Arab banking system.

Marto was addressing the opening session of a six-day seminar on pricing banking services and budgeting which is attended by 40 bankers from the Arab World. The participants will discuss several working papers and hear lectures about preparing banking budgets and cost assessments.

The participants will also conduct practical work related to these topics. Marto paid tribute to the Arab Banking Union (ABU) for its efforts to develop the Arab banking system to help contribute to general Arab development.

The ABU's Secretary-General Adnan Al Hindi referred in his

statement to the opening session to the question of economic groupings around the world. These groupings should prompt the Arab banks and financial institutions to launch closer cooperation to withstand foreign competition and cope with the modern trends in banking cooperation, Hindi said.

Hindi announced that in November this year the (ABU) will open a data bank that would provide advanced services to Arab banks and financial institutions.

The projected bank, he said, is deemed necessary to help the Arab World cope with modern developments. Hindi urged Arab banks to give more attention to training so that they can provide better services to their customers.

Seminar on financial analysis, programming opens in Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — A ten-day financial analysis and programming seminar, organised by the International Monetary Fund, opened at the University of Jordan Saturday with the participation of specialists from economic, financial and planning sectors in Jordan.

Finance Ministry Secretary-General Abdul Majeed Al Qasem, who opened the seminar, said that it is being held at a time when the Jordanian government was involved in rearranging its economic priorities and introducing amendments to the country's economic and financial policies designed to cope with the present situation.

Qasem referred to government measures which, he said, were designed to reduce the margin of deficit in the country's fiscal

budget and the balance of payments.

Reduction in general expenses and a limited flotation of the Jordanian dinar were among other measures which helped to bring about reform to the economy, Qasem added.

Qasem said that the government had adopted an economic reform programme designed to enable the Kingdom overcome its deficit in the fiscal budget and the balance of payments.

The participants will discuss a number of topics related to economic, accounting, modern trends in economic analysis and major essential elements in finan-

cial programmes among other topics.

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Rabat stands good chance to be 'model World Bank pupil'

RABAT (R) — World Bank President Barber Conable has told Morocco's leaders that they must keep spending under control if their heavily-indebted country is to become a major success story for the world leading body.

In meetings with government officials, businessmen and bankers over the last three days, Conable praised an economic performance which resulted in a growth rate last year of 10 per cent and an inflation rate of 2.3 per cent.

But, despite mounting domestic pressures to loosen economic restraints and bring down unemployment, he urged the government to keep a tight lid on spending.

"Morocco has to be congratulated for seizing the opportunity offered in the last few years and I believe you can be satisfied with the progress realised," he told a group of businessmen.

"Morocco can be justly proud of its results, but it has achieved what it has achieved because it has proved itself capable of

adhering to a certain fiscal discipline which is a constraining force," he told bankers in Casablanca.

The budget almost balanced last year for the first time in 15 years. But the measures to cut the deficit from its peak of 12 billion dirhams (\$1.4 billion) in 1982 placed severe strains on social cohesion.

Since Morocco launched a World Bank-inspired austerity drive five years ago, exports have risen by about 90 per cent and a deficit of 11 billion dirhams (\$1.3 billion) in the current account has turned into a surplus of 1.7 billion.

Some economists predict

Morocco is now poised for a major economic leap forward, making it a model World Bank pupil.

"The World Bank would love a success story and maybe Morocco could provide it with one," one western economic analyst said. "That's why he (Conable) is here. The top men never visit the bad boys."

Others note that the economy still rests on the fragile foundations of tourism, agriculture and sales of phosphates.

"A bad harvest, a few less visitors and a decline in the phosphate price and we are in trouble again," one economist said.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday, July 22, 1989			
Central Bank official rates			
	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	574.8	579.9	
French franc	854.6	868.9	
Deutschemark	289.7	302.7	
Swiss franc	347.0	350.5	
Japanese yen (for 100)	38.4	39.3	
Dutch guilder	403.4	407.4	
Swedish crown	265.7	268.4	
Italian lira (for 100)	82.1	83.0	
Belgian franc (for 10)	41.5	41.9	
	143.6	145.0	

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market starting Monday July 17, '89 and ending Wednesday July 19, '89. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	2187	3718	1.700	1.700	1.000
Petra Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	4801	11104	2.240	2.330	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	328	459	1.400	1.400	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	27922	38162	1.070	1.080	1.000
Housing Bank	7800	14430	1.840	1.850	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
Caro Amman Bank	28	812	29.000	29.000	5.000
Bank of Jordan	160	2450	15.300	15.320	5.000
Arab Bank	7840	1496320	184.000	189.000	10.000
Jordan National Bank	11305	28213	2.470	2.500	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Finance and Credit Corporation	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Financial Investments	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	92596	133364	1.360	1.520	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	20123	38968	1.930	1.920	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	100	1800	17.500	18.000	2.000
Beit Al Mal Saving & Investment for Housing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan French Insurance	16280	42956	2.650	2.630	1.000
REPCO Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Insurance	7895	25494	3.230	3.210	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	1000	1095	1.080	1.100	1.000
Yamouk Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	2150	2869	1.340	1.320	1.000
Jerusalem Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
General Arabia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Abhiya Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
United Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Services and industries					
General Investments	—	—	—	—	1.000
Imma for Investment and Financial Facilities	—	—	—	—	1.000
Darco for Housing and Investment	35061	27585	0.790	0.770	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqarco)	34524	23111	0.660	0.670	1.000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	25366	8555	0.340	0.330	1.000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	1071	171	0.660	0.660	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Ta Jeepo	1059	386	0.880	0.860	1.000
International Contracting & Investment	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordanian Electric Power	8099	11770	1.440	1.460	1.000
Erbid District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab International Hotels	56508	73602	1.280	1.280	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1.000
United Middle East and Commodore Hotels	200	184	0.550	0.520	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	31208	41274	1.310	1.310	1.000
Jordan Press Foundation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Dar Al Shams Press, Printing and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Dairy	7200	8245	1.170	1.140	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	33468	130737	3.840	3.870	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	582160	1409681	2.270	2.450	1.000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	550	2435	4.650	4.600	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intag)	5325	9341	1.750	1.740	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	1796	8262	4.580	4.600	1.000
Jordan Kawkab for Agricultural Products	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Sweets and Chocolate Manufacturing	37850	98631	2.590	2.590	1.000
Aladdin Industries	123597	280393	2.190	2.220	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	222	1055	4.700	4.700	1.000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	12832	30218	2.320	2.340	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	500	1230	2.450	2.460	1.000
Chemical Industries	127285	179197	1.320	1.390	1.000
Jordan Industries and March (JIMCO)	8121	23481	2.790	2.860	1.000
Dar Al Dawla for Development and Investment	9150	24133	2.670	2.650	1.000
National Steel Industries	66590	231511	3.400	3.460	5.000
Universal Chemical Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
General Mining	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	9180	72363	7.850	7.900	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	3500	500	0.150	0.150	1.000
National Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Investment and International Trade	181540	119086	0.690	0.660	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	27850	81788	2.910	2.920	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	17240	41776	2.400	2.410	1.000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	800	3592	4.660	4.500	1.000
Jordan Rockwood Industries	475825	666242	1.310	1.470	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1.000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1.000
Western Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tanning	190	379	2.000	2.000	5.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	—	—	—	—	1.000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	481227	1211887	2.330	2.570	1.000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	12280	101046	2.970	2.970	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	144825	202812	1.560	1.570	1.000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	39600	85832	2.170	2.100	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	39914	41647	1.050	1.040	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	24996	27617	1.070	1.120	1.000
Jordan Precast Concrete Industry	39707	28683	0.750	0.730	1.000
Grand total	2,981,998	7,147,511			

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Tyson: riding high before the fall?

By Frank Keating

These days you fancy that the one person in the forseeable future who might have the beating of Tyson is the champion himself — when his spectacular and continuing anti-social behaviour outside the ring finally outpaces the ability of his "connections" to cover up.

Or even, when the money runs out, Tyson has vast reserves of dollars, of course. But he has already lost a fortune in endorsements in the hectic months of the past 18 months. And he and his new management buddies continue to spend it like there was no tomorrow.

Certainly the whole horrendous story seems to be on course for a tragedy of quite epic proportions. Of all pro prize fighting's unhappy endings, this could be the most awesomely gruesome of all.

Tyson was 23 just a few weeks ago. Already the tale has everything — except the final chapter. How will it turn out? Optimists place no more bets.

The last week in February and the first of March, 1988, seem to date the trauma precisely. In that time Tyson's father-figure manager, Jim Jacobs, died of leukemia; and the boxer married the skittish TV sitcom star Robin Givens.

It set in train, in 12 months to the Bruno fight, a crazy catalogue of public and private violence, bizarre charges and counter-charges of manipulation, extortion, bribery, adultery, sadism and even threats of suicide and murder — all festooned in a forest of flying writs and spendthrifts' thousand-dollar bills.

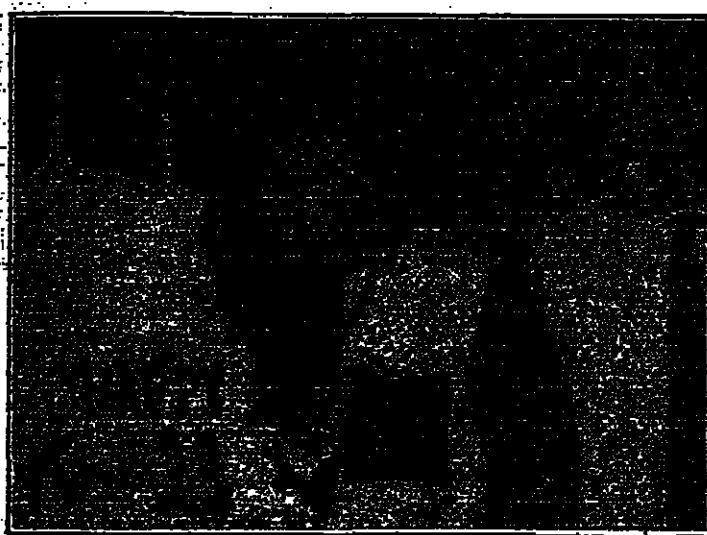
It had all been set down with an unimpassioned, deadpan simplicity by the New York author, Peter Heller, whose previous book on boxing, "In This Corner" (Robson Books, 1975) remains one of the classics of the all-time sports library. Now, for the same publisher, "Tyson" is a blog as gruesomely riveting and unpleasantly, painfully clinical as a legalised assault by its subject in the ring. As an expose of pathetic sportsman type and heroism, it is quite brilliant.

Heller plays it straight down the middle, putting the undisputed facts, taking no sides — though he potently leads this difficult in the case of Tyson's new "godfather", the outrageous former jailbird with the frozen frizz, Don King.

For instance, last year, as he was desperately trying to woo Tyson away from his legitimate manager as well as his wife and mother-in-law, King sent the misbegotten young champ a new \$160,000 Rolls Royce after he had denied his \$100,000 Bentley in a minor crash when he and his wife started fighting in the front seat.

When Tyson finally signed for King a few months later, the promoter's first act was to bill the boxer for the present. Tyson himself was oblivious to such a paltry bill, let alone which car was which.

The week after he had dispatched Bruno, for example, the 22-year old handed out cash for a white Mercedes convertible at a Los Angeles car lot, then impulsively wandered into another saleroom in nearby Woodland



Tyson celebrating his 23rd birthday earlier this month.

Hills where he phoned King to wire him \$205,000 to buy a 400-horsepower black Ferrari Testarossa. No matter that back in his garage at home was a luxury Range Rover, a Rolls Royce Silver Spur, a white Rolls Royce Corniche, the King gift Rolls, the Bentley, a Jaguar E-type, a Porsche, a Lamborghini and an Aston Martin Lagonda.

When his wife had first left the marital home in New Jersey to fly to California to begin divorce proceedings — a state where there is a 50-50 community property law; assets split down the middle, he argued — Robin, on the way, wrote one final cheque against a Tyson account. Tyson's lawyer closed the account just in time.

As Heller says: "By the time the cheque reached the Chase Manhattan Bank, on which it was drawn, for collection later in the week, Tyson's accounts had been transferred and it bounced. It was written for \$581,812, payable to Robin Givens Productions, and noted in her handwriting 'reimbursement on expenses.'" Two days before that Tyson had

bought his mother-in-law a golden sable fur coat for \$91,000.

In the last months Tyson has forfeited millions in endorsements organised cautiously and brilliantly by his previous management — Pepsi have dropped him, so has the 3M Corporation, Sunlight and Toyota. Heller quotes Marty Blackman, an advertising consultant who specialises in athletes: "Companies didn't research Mike Tyson as they should have. He has shown a pattern of unpredictable behaviour, so with this guy everyone's wondering 'what's next?' We are advising all clients to proceed with caution."

Heller dispassionately logs all the sexual rampages, the drunken violence, the pay-offs to silence aggrieved victims of assault, physical and sexual — each of the two parking attendants attacked at the Los Angeles lot withdrew their charges, for instance, after a buy-off of \$105,000, reports Heller.

So, another page, in the name of sport, is turned this Saturday. One reads to think how the last chapter might end. — The Guardian

Williams' camp demands investigation, rematch

Tyson dispatches Williams shortly

ATLANTIC CITY (R) — Carl Williams' manager Ira Liebowitz demanded a re-match after his fighter's brief encounter with undisputed world heavyweight champion Mike Tyson ended in defeat.

Referee Randy Neumann stopped the scheduled 12-round fight after just one minute 33 seconds of the first round Friday after Tyson had floored Williams with a left hook to the jaw.

The challenger got up around the count of six and appeared to be ready to continue, but Neumann stepped in to end his brief bid for glory.

"We believe we're entitled to a re-match. We believe that Carl had beautiful control in the first round that he should be given an opportunity," said Liebowitz, adding that he would not have

Neumann as the referee again.

"We believe even Mike Tyson knows that Carl was taken advantage of and we believe that Mike Tyson will be a big enough man to realise he should be given a chance to fight a full fight and not just one round or less than one round."

Williams, who protested vehemently when Neumann stopped the fight, said he felt he had been robbed.

"What opportunity did I have? I didn't even have a chance out there."

"It's one thing to fight the

fighter, it's another thing to fight the politics involved," Williams said without elaborating.

"I wasn't hurt, obviously, to the point where I couldn't continue. I've been down two, three times in a fight and got up and knocked the other guy down. If I would have gotten up I would have gotten mad."

Neither Tyson nor his camp addressed the possibility of a match, which would be a long shot — especially after the promoters had difficulty selling out the Atlantic City convention centre, despite scaling down the seating capacity.

The centre can seat 20,000 people but seating was limited to 11,000.

Tyson said he would like next to fight Evander Holyfield, ranked one by both the World Boxing Association and World Boxing Council.

Neumann, 41, a former heavyweight boxer, was not intimidated by aggressive questions about his decision to stop the fight.

"I asked him: 'are you all right?' The first time I asked him there was no response and his eyes were blank. 'I asked him again, and we have 10 seconds to make this decision. I asked him again, and again there was no response and he was concussed.'"

Williams, casually chewing gum in the ring moments before the introductions while trying to outstare Tyson, made good promise not to freeze when the fight started.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

DARLING HIT IN HEAD WITH WILD PITCH: New York Mets' Ron Darling felt the speed of his rival's fastball Friday night when the pitcher was hit on the head with a pitch that left him semi-motionless in the dirt. "I was dizzy," Darling said after the game in which the New York Mets' pitcher was hit on the helmet in the second inning by one of three wild pitches thrown by Atlanta's Marty Gray. Gray's wild pitches led to two runs, as the Braves surrendered to the Mets 6-4. Said Gray: "I never expected to be that erratic." Elsewhere in the National League, it was Houston 4, Philadelphia 2; Montreal 3, Cincinnati 1; St. Louis 5, San Diego 0, and San Francisco 4, Chicago 3. Pittsburgh and Los Angeles split a doubleheader. The Pirates won the opener 4-1 and the Dodgers the nightcap 7-3. (AP)

MENEM SHINES ALONGSIDE MARADONA: Argentina, arguably the world's best soccer player, credited Argentine president Carlos Menem with helping him score the only goal of a fund-raising match for the poor Friday night in Buenos Aires. The captain of the national squad scored from a 30-metre free kick in the 64th minute for Argentina against a selection of local and foreign players. "I scored because Menem covered (goalkeeper Ubaldo) Fillo's view," Maradona told reporters. Menem, 59, a keen tennis and basketball player who also pilots planes and races cars, took office on July 8 while Argentina was suffering its worst economic crisis. The bushy-haired president teamed up with Maradona in midfield and surprised players half his age with accurate passes and deft dribbling. Asked why he did not move up to attack more often, Menem had a small complaint about his professional team mates: "They just would not pass me the ball," he said. (R)

U.S. GETS BREAKS AGAINST W. GERMANY: The United States got a couple of timely breaks against West Germany on the opening day of their Davis Cup semifinal in Munich. In the first match of the best-of-five series, Friday, last-minute substitute Brad Gilbert took advantage of a 10-minute intermission after the third set to beat Carl-Uwe Steeb 6-2, 2-6, 2-6, 6-4, 6-4. Then Andre Agassi received a needed break after blowing a two-set lead against West German ace Boris Becker. The match was suspended at midnight, seconds after Becker had won the fourth set. Play will resume Saturday at 2 p.m. local time (1200 GMT). Officials said both team captains agreed to stop the contest after nearly four hours of play. However, Agassi seemed much more eager to get away after Becker evened the match with a crosscourt forehand. The 19-year-old American ran to the sideline, grabbed his warmup jacket and hustled off the court while Becker sat in his chair with a frustrated look. U.S. captain Tom Gorman said he thinks the delay gives Agassi an advantage. (AP)

JUNIOR SEES ROLE SOLVING DOLPHINS' DRUGS, PROBLEMS: Defense and drugs were part of the Miami Dolphins' downfall last season, and E.J. Junior wants to help with both problems. The Dolphins signed the former pro bowl linebacker after the Phoenix Cardinals decided his skills had slipped and left him unprotected last spring. Junior, 29, says he plans to end a three-year slump with big plays for a defense that ranked 26th in the NFL last year. And for a team surrounded by speculation about drug use at the end of the season, Junior says he can provide a voice of experience. In 1983, Junior went on probation for a felony drug conviction and received a four-game suspension from the NFL. He kicked his habit and became a drug counselor. (AP)

Sweden heading for Davis Cup final again

BASTAD, Sweden (R) — Sweden's place in their seventh successive Davis Cup final looked assured Friday after Mats Wilander and Jonas Svensson swept aside their Yugoslav opponents on the first day of their semifinal.

Wilander exhausted Goran Pripic, standing in for the injured and sorely-missed Slobodan Zivojinovic, in a long first set and then moved in for the kill to win 7-6, 6-1, 6-0.

Svensson, himself a substitute for beaten Wimbledon and French Open finalist Stefan Edberg, had earlier subdued unpredictable teenager Goran Ivanisevic to win the day's opening rubber 6-4, 7-6, 3-6, 6-4.

With a 2-0 lead in the best-of-five match tie, Sweden can confidently start making plans to play another final, against either West Germany or the United States, in December.

The four-times champions also have Edberg waiting in the wings, the former Wimbledon champion having decided to play only Saturday's doubles because of an ankle injury.

"It looks very bright," said Swedish captain Jonte Sjogren. "I've felt all along that we should win this match. I think Stefan and Anders (Jarryd) can wrap it up in the doubles."

The big-hitting Zivojinovic's decision not to play because of an arm injury was a bitter blow for Yugoslavia who made the semifinals last year but have never reached the final.

The less-experienced Pripic put up a good fight in a 71-minute

first set which saw eight breaks of serve before Wilander won the tiebreak 9-7 on his second set point.

After that, Pripic was unable to maintain any pressure on the Swede, winner of the Grand Slam titles last year.

"I exhausted him in the first set," said Wilander who had not won a Davis Cup match since beating Frenchman Yannick Noah in the semifinals here a year ago.

Wilander held the world number one spot briefly until going out in the second round of the Australian Open in January and has struggled with his form all year.

But he looked at ease on the familiar Bastad clay, leaving Pripic standing time and again with his passing shots.

"It feels good that my game has loosened up," Wilander said. "You sometimes have periods when you lose the important points and it is difficult to get out of that vicious circle."

"(Yugoslavia's) chances are very small," Wilander added. "It would take a lot for them to turn this around."

Svensson was so weary by his long match against left-hander Ivanisevic under a searing sun that he did not realise he had won when he took his final service game to love.

"I thought the score was 5-3 when the match was suddenly over so I was quite surprised," said Svensson, who made his Davis Cup debut with two wins against Italy in the first round in February.

Americans take to English croquet lawns

LONDON (AP) — Five quiet Americans graced the manicured lawns of the exclusive Hurlingham club this week, soothing balm to the British sporting establishment two weeks after hurricane McEneaney had blown through Wimbledon.

The setting was quintessentially English — the grounds of a manor house on the banks of the river Thames where striped tents dotted the shady scene, tea cups tinkled alongside the discreet sparkle of champagne, and stooping colonels coughing apologetically through silver moustaches.

The sport was croquet, obscure as it is delightful. A bit like the players, really, and quite a contrast to the Wimbledon tournament.

Treasure Arkley, Archie Birchfield, Jerry Stark, David Collins, Peyton Ballinger all are courteous to a fault. "Yes, it's not exactly a sport riddled with controversy," says Ballinger, one of only two women competing at the inaugural world singles championships and one of only four professionals in the United States.

Ballinger coaches at the PGA national resort in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, and admits to

making a "comfortable living" from a sport that bears little resemblance to the backyard version played by amateurs.

Briefly, on a surface the size of four tennis courts, players use a mallet to knock a hard ball the size of a small coconut through hoops that allow only one-thirtieth-of-an-inch margin of error. They also have to put the striker ball in either an advantageous position for their next shot or as far away as possible from their opponent.

The Americans, who have been playing this ancient game professionally for only a dozen years or so were not completely embarrassed in this tournament. Arkley, partnering an Englishman, advanced to a respectable place in the doubles and the best American, Stark, at least made it into the runners-up tournament before losing.

Birchfield and Collins were gracious losers at Hurlingham. Some people wait five years and pay \$1,600 a year to join this club; at least those with a mallet got in for nothing and didn't have to line up.

"We'll get better," said Ballinger. "As more players take up the sport, standards will improve."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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TAKE TEN, BUT GET IT RIGHT

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ A
♥ J 8 4
♦ K Q 10 9 6 5
♣ K 3 2

EAST
♠ J 9 7 5 3
♥ K 6 4 2
♦ Q 6
♣ 8 3

SOUTH
♠ K Q 10
♥ A 9 7 2
♦ 7 2
♣ A 6 5 4

The bidding:
South West North East
1♠ Pass 1♠ Pass
1♥ Pass 3♥ Pass
3NT Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Five of ♠
Duplicate pairs can prove to be an interesting game to kibitz if you were to be permitted to follow a particular board from table to table. Most pairs failed to make three no trump on this deal from a pair championship, but a few managed to demonstrate that the contract was unbeatable.

It was a difficult, hard to bid, because most players use a second-

ary jump in their suit as invitational, not forcing. Therefore, three diamonds would have been an underbid; so most Norths chose a jump to three clubs, and that resulted in a three no trump contract.

West's lead of a spade was damaging, since it removed one of the two entries to dummy before it could be put to good use. At some tables declarer came to hand with the ace of clubs, East following with the queen, to lead a diamond to the king. East simply refused to win the trick and the diamond suit was dead, since declarer had only one entry and needed two to establish and run the suit.

Other declarers used the entry to hand to finesse the ten of diamonds. East took the jack and shifted to clubs, and the defenders forced out dummy's remaining entry before the diamonds were set up.

The winning line is to lead the ten (or nine) of diamonds from dummy at trick two. East must win with the jack and let's suppose he shifts to a club (a heart is no better). Declarer wins in hand and forces out the ace of diamonds, and the king of clubs is still on the table as an entry to the diamonds.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"Stanley is exhausted. He hauled his dirty socks on an incredible journey all the way to the hamper."

JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TRUIF
KONET
SACUT
DRIZAL

You'd think they'd look it up in the encyclopedia.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

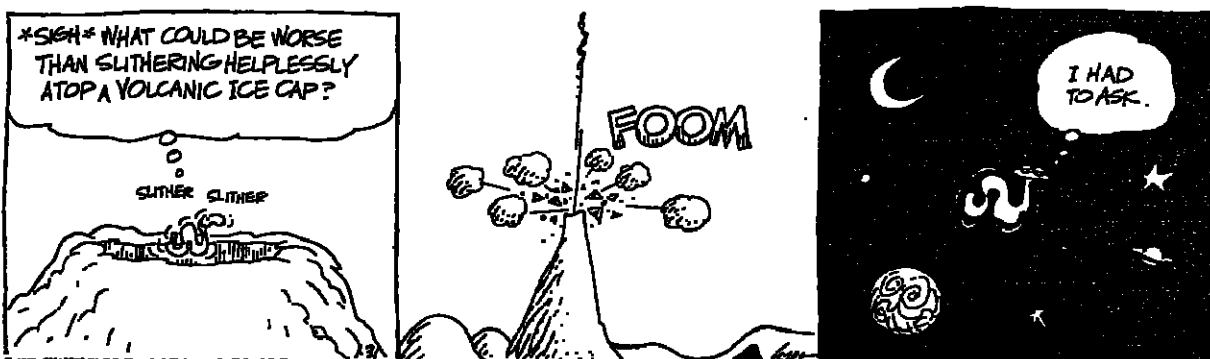
Answers tomorrow

Yesterday's Jumbles: SHOWY AROMA: NIPPLE FALLEN Answer: Another name for chivalry: MALE POLISH

Peanuts



B.C.



Andy Capp



Anti-apartheid party rejects majority rule

CAPE TOWN (R) — The anti-apartheid Democratic Party (DP) Saturday launched its campaign for South Africa's general election with a manifesto that rejects black majority rule.

The DP, formed as an alliance of three liberal opposition parties seeking to end the ruling white National Party's 41-year hold on power, said racial discrimination would be outlawed, but integration would not be forced.

South Africa should not be run as one nation, but as a federation of states free to draft their own laws within the framework of a bill of rights, it added.

"The Democratic Party constitution will protect our nation's various cultures, religions and languages and will prevent majority domination," the manifesto said. "At the same time, it will allow every South African a vote of equal value."

Details of the proposed constitution would have to be thrashed out in negotiations with black leaders including members of outlawed movements and

those currently in prison.

The Sept. 6 election, which signals the end of President P.W. Botha's 10-year leadership of South Africa, will see whites, Indians and mixed-race colour-cards vote for three separate chambers of parliament.

South Africa's blacks, who outnumber whites by five to one, have no vote at central government level.

The campaign strategy of the DP, which was formed earlier this year, stressed economic proposals and pledges of better housing and education for blacks.

"We must set our people free," said Zach de Beer, a former mining magnate who quit business earlier this year to help found and lead the fledgling party.

"We must have one nation, apartheid-free and democratic-



Sergei Akhromeyev

Soviet marshal charms the Hill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Soviet Marshal Sergei F. Akhromeyev is taking home rave reviews for his unprecedented testimony bringing glasnost to Capitol Hill.

Akhromeyev fielded questions for nearly five hours from the U.S. House of Representatives Armed Service Committee Friday, providing data on Soviet military spending, changes in troop deployments and arms control positions and revealing that Soviet tank production was cut 40 per cent this year, down to 1,700 tanks.

"I really thought it was brilliant for a man out of a system in which there has never been very much of this sort of thing," said Chairman Les Aspin, a Wisconsin Democrat. "He was extremely skillful."

Could the Soviet marshal be taken at face value?

"Who knows?" Aspin replied. "You weigh what he says against all the other evidence, like everything else, just as you do with any witness."

"The important thing is to see if he's credible on the things you can check," he said. "If he is, he's more credible on the things you can't."

Soviet mobs seize 1,400 weapons

TBILISI (AP) — Mobs have seized 1,400 weapons in more than 40 attacks on police and government posts in western Soviet Georgia, which is nearly paralysed by ethnic violence, Soviet media reported.

Zarya Vostoka, a Georgian newspaper, reported that 17 people were killed and 406 injured in six days of conflict between Georgians and Abkhazians in the Black Sea resort area.

Moscow Radio said food stores were open in Sukhumi, capital of the Abkhazia region, and nearby towns, but transportation difficulties made supplies of food and other goods scarce.

"Most enterprises and industries are not working," it said. "Both railway and city transport are paralysed and heaps of garbage in hot weather could result in an epidemic."

The newspaper said cargo trucks were getting through only when escorted by police.

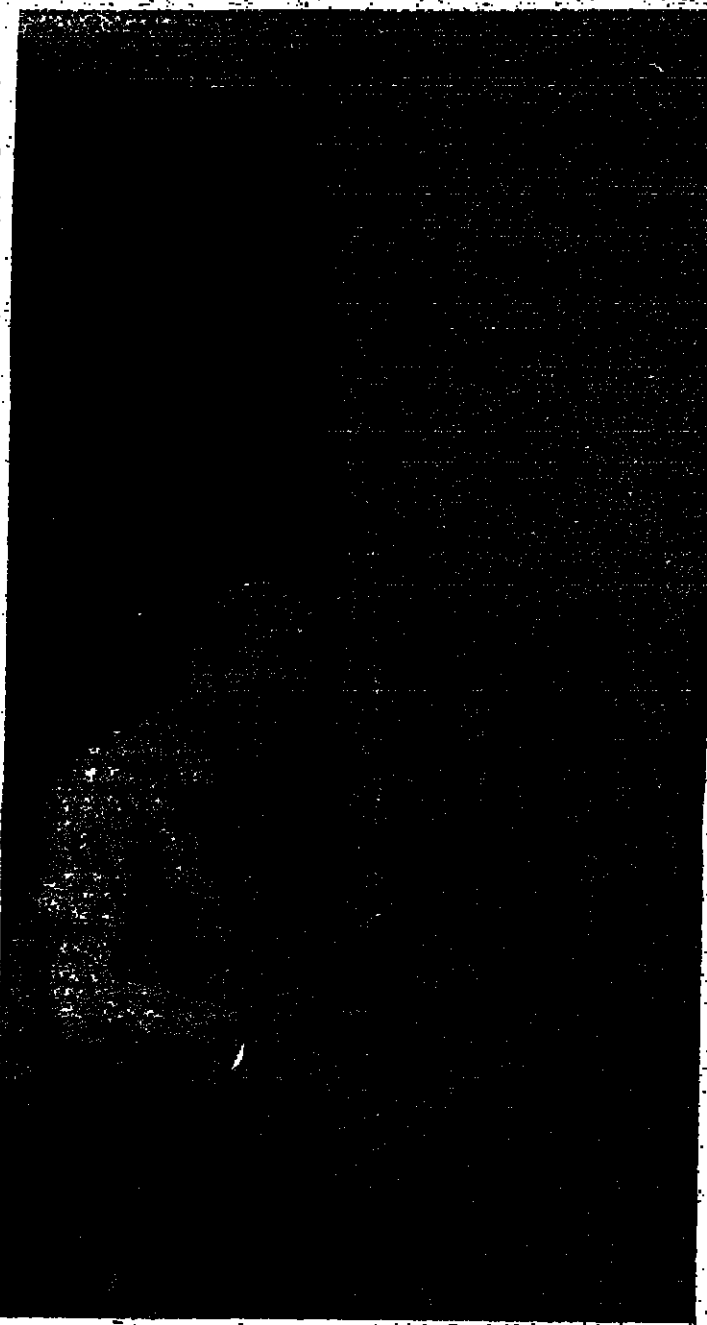
On Tuesday, authorities declared the Sukhumi area off-limits to the millions of tourists who vacation there each year and imposed emergency regulations, including an 11 p.m.-6 a.m. curfew. Police and soldiers have seized more than 2,700 firearms since the emergency was declared.

Police confiscated four anti-tank and two anti-personnel mines at one village in Abkhazia, an ethnically mixed enclave in Georgia, Zarya Vostoka said in the Friday edition distributed in Tbilisi, capital of the southern republic.

Vremya, the nightly television news programme, said: "In the last 24 hours, groups of hoodlums in western Georgia have seized almost 1,400 hunting and combat weapons" in more than 40 raids.

Abkhazia, 1,280 kilometres south of Moscow, remained closed to Western reporters.

TASS, the official news agency, reported that 49 peo-



A police officer in Abkhazia looks over arms seized after ethnic clashes between Abkhazians and Georgians during the past week.

ple were arrested for curfew violations and police seized more than 200 weapons. The government newspaper Ivestia said the confiscated weapons included two sub-machine guns and a grenade.

Special flights and ships continued evacuating the thousands of tourists stranded in Sukhumi, Ivestia said.

It said 4,300 people were evacuated on 46 special flights and 15,000 were taken from Sukhumi harbour by cruise ships.

Zarya Vostoka said 31 policemen and internal security troops were among the injured.

Some media reports have put the death toll at 18, but Zarya Vostoka quoted the Georgia Interior Ministry as saying 17 had died.

Moscow Radio said 96 people remained hospitalised, nine in "grave condition." The latest count of injuries was 67 higher than the one given Thursday.

The radio said the trouble was caused by Abkhazian demands for secession from Georgia.

Abkhazians are a minority in their homeland, a so-called autonomous republic inside the Republic of Georgia. Both ethnic groups in the enclave claim discrimination by the other.

Column 800000

Taller Spaniards need longer beds

MADRID (AP) — Spanish beds will be eight centimetres longer next year in response to demand from a growing market. Andres Sanchez, secretary of the Spanish Bed Association, said Friday that as of Jan. 1, the standard length used in the Spanish bed industry will go from 182 centimetres to 190 centimetres. Manufacturers of sheets, blankets and bedspreads as well as architects responsible for drawing up house and apartment plans have been informed of the change, Sanchez said. He said the new length would bring Spanish beds in line with sizes standard in most of the other members of the 12-nation European Community. Spanish youths and young adults generally tower over their parents and grandparents, reflecting profound changes in diet and eating habits brought about by rapid economic growth. According to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, from 1984 to 1987 alone, Spain's per capita gross domestic product nearly doubled from \$4,192 to \$7,449.

Schlueter enters the cage — from back

COPENHAGEN (R) — Danish Prime Minister Poul Schluter surprised everyone except his bride when he slipped away from the office and got married Friday. Schluter, 60, was married to Anne Marie Vessel, 40, in a Copenhagen church barely an hour after attending a meeting of parliament's foreign policy committee. He gave his mother the news over his car telephone. "He told me there were just two of them at the wedding," she told Ritzan news agency. "Yes, it was a big surprise." Even his secretary did not know where the prime minister was until the wedding was announced later. "I didn't have the slightest idea that the wedding was taking place," said Hans Engell, a leader of Schluter's Conservative Party. "The party was supposed to meet next week to decide what to give them as a wedding present — but we'll get them one anyway," he said. Vessel, director of the Danish Royal Ballet School, is Schluter's third wife. His second wife died in February 1988.

China tightens media reins

PEKING (Agencies) — China's Communist Party ended a national meeting of propaganda officials demanding tighter control over the media and arts, and ridicule of the West's contention that socialism is dead, reports said Saturday.

The officials decided that "news and publishing units, social science research organs, literary and art groups ... must propagate and seriously carry out the four basic principles," said the party's official newspaper, the People's Daily.

The four principles in essence declare that China must be ruled only by the Communist Party according to Marxism, Leninism and Mao Tse-Tung thought.

They have been part of senior leader Deng Xiaoping's ideology for a decade, but they tend to be stressed during crackdowns.

Informed sources said the government had dismissed a senior

official who supervised the ideology of a range of publications.

Du Daozheng, director of the state media and publications administration, has been accused of backing an appeal by journalists before the June 4 military crackdown for the government to negotiate with student demonstrators, they said.

An administration official said Saturday Du was sick and not in his office. He said he did not know if Du has been dismissed.

Last week, the administration — apparently under its new hard-line leadership — banned sales of foreign newspapers and magazines in Peking and launched another crackdown on what it sees as pornography printed by official publishing houses.

The sources said at least 14 writers from nine publications had been arrested since June 4 when troops and tanks crushed student-led protests, killing hun-

dreds — possibly thousands — of civilians.

During the nationwide democracy movement China's state-controlled media enjoyed its most unrestricted period of reporting since the 1949 revolution until headline Premier Li Peng slapped martial law on Peking June 20.

Du's dismissal follows a purge of senior officials connected with Zhao Ziyang who was sacked from his post as Communist Party general-secretary June 24.

Hu Qili, who emerged as an ally of the reformist Zhao, was replaced as politburo member in charge of propaganda and culture by Li Ruihan, a former mayor of Tianjin.

Officials, heads of propaganda departments and cultural censors, ended their five-day meeting Friday by declaring that the cultural market must be "rectified" — meaning shaken up and purged of reactionary materials.

Veteran American diplomat under probe as possible spy

WASHINGTON (AP) — A veteran U.S. diplomat is being investigated as a possible Soviet spy after reportedly being videotaped passing a briefcase to a Soviet agent, the State Department confirmed Friday night.

The briefcase transfer was recorded in Vienna, where the official in question, Felix S. Bloch, first had contact with the Soviets three years ago, the ABC television network reported.

There was no answer at Bloch's Washington home Friday night. John McWethy, the ABC reporter on the story, said Bloch declined to comment when reached earlier.

Bloch, a 30-year career employee, has been placed on leave, his building pass withdrawn and his security clearance revoked, the department said in a statement.

Officials were not immediately sure, but it could be the first time a U.S. diplomat has been involved in an espionage case since the files case of the late 1940s. There have been other cases involving military personnel attached to embassies.

Bloch was director of the office of regional political-economic affairs in the depart-

ment's Bureau of European and Canadian Affairs. In that position, he would have been involved in almost anything that dealt with two or more European countries, including the Soviet Union.

In Vienna, he had been deputy chief of mission, the number two official in the embassy, and would have had access to all the embassy's activities and communications.

Vienna has been the site of the long-running and largely unfruitful talks on conventional arms reduction in Europe, the mutual balanced force reduction talks between the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and the Warsaw Pact.

Bloch returned from Vienna about two months ago, when he was "picked up" by Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agents, ABC said.

A department source who knows Bloch and who spoke on condition of anonymity said he believed that was a reference to Bloch returning from a trip to Vienna. Bloch had completed his Vienna assignment and returned to work in Washington about a year ago, this source said.

Bloch has not been charged, ABC said FBI agents and

Soviet agents have been watching Bloch.

The last public edition of the department's biographical register, published in 1974, said Bloch, 54, a native of Austria, had served in Berlin, Düsseldorf, West Germany, and in Caracas, Venezuela.

The department source said he served as economic counselor at the U.S. embassy in East Berlin in 1974-1975, and later in Singapore.

In a statement read by spokeswoman Anita Stockman, the State Department said it was "pursuing the inquiry thoroughly in order to identify the compromised security which has occurred and the appropriate legal steps."

Stockman said it was premature to speculate on what secrets might have been compromised.

Alger Hiss, who had been a high department official, was secretary of the founding conference of the United Nations and adviser to President Franklin Roosevelt at the World War II Yalta Conference with Britain and the Soviet Union. He was accused of espionage for the Soviets in 1948. He denied everything, but was convicted of perjury and served a prison sentence.

A Soviet soldier since 1940, Akhromeyev became Mikhail S. Gorbachev's chief military adviser last year after retiring as chief of the Soviet general staff.

Akhromeyev also is a member of the new Soviet congress, whose full name is the Congress of People's Deputies, and of the new smaller full-time legislature, the Supreme Soviet.

The testimony was a contest of symbols, Soviet and American.

The Red Army officer wore his marshal's uniform, olive-brown with red piping, with large gold stars on his shoulder boards, 11 rows of decorations, a gleaming gold star perched above them.

Around him were the formal symbols of the United States.

A giant American eagle was emblazoned on the wall behind the witness. The flags of the army, navy, marine corps and air force, each with a thick cluster of battle streamers, were draped around the room.

"Never has so high-ranking a Soviet official appeared before this committee," Aspin said. "Through the years we have seen many uniforms sit at that table — but never one like yours."

Akhromeyev, obviously accustomed to Gorbachev's policy of glasnost, or openness, did not appear to have much trouble adjusting.

When asked a question he did not want to answer, he explained that the Soviets have military secrets, just as the Americans do.

At a break he politely signed autographs, penning them on copies of his prepared testimony.

Death sentence upheld for Korean bomber

SEOUL (AP) — A Seoul appellate court Saturday upheld the death sentence imposed on a confessed North Korean agent for the 1987 bombing of a South Korean airliner (KAL) that killed all 115 people.

Kim Hyon-Hui, 27, showed little sign of emotion with her eyes downcast when Senior Judge Lee Young-II found her guilty of violating national security, criminal and aviation laws and sentenced her to death by hanging.

The appellate court ruling came as no surprise, because government officials have privately indicated that the defendant would be pardoned even if the verdict is upheld through the supreme court.

Several relatives of victims of the bombing cried and shouted



Kim Hyon-Hui insults when Kim, clad in white jacket and pants, was escorted by two security guards into the packed courtroom. An older female relative collapsed and had to be helped by others.

"Bring back my son. Why did you kill my innocent son?" one woman shouted.

Hundreds of security guards surrounded the courtroom and checked all people entering the courtroom.

Canada closes file on Gander air crash

OTTAWA (AP) — Canada has closed the books on its worst air disaster, concluding after three years of investigation that the crash that killed 256 Americans in Newfoundland is a mystery never likely to be solved.

"There is nothing in all these deliberations which holds out any reasonable prospect of any more success than that achieved to date," former Supreme Court Justice William Estey concluded in his review released Friday.

"No inquiry is going to bring the deceased back," Estey said. "Should we keep this book open forever?"

Estey was appointed to review the case after an earlier investigation board split sharply on the cause of the crash.

He said the evidence did not support the Canadian aviation safety board's finding that ice on the wings of the Arrow Air charter DC-8 was the probable cause of the Dec. 12, 1985, crash at Gander, Newfoundland.

But he likewise found no evi-

THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Herb Edmonson

1000

ACROSS

1. AS

2. Mr. Adams of

3. Machine for

4. Solving for

5. The leading

6. The Adams

7. A salute

8. Muse of poetry

9. Star of the

10. The group

11. TUTU

12. New Haven

13. Depressive

14. The

15. Red attachment

16. Tangle

17. Given the once-over

18. Recycled

19. This out

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CRYPTOGRAMS

1. L A R O E I D E M B O I C H E I A H O D R D F O E G E M
K C O E C O M N A Z L E R I L E M U G H O L V
V I G U F X U C O N E D E R T E E L —By Margaret McIlwain Elert

2. N E F F N L J N E B K Y X K A I L C A K I L V
A P P E X I N L W W F R Y I J J Y N I F J O I C D E B O R D H
O C E L D R —By Karl Inghat

3. A C M E O I X M R Q I E Q I C R Q X I F F E H S P F T O E R H
W V I R N C I E W T C M E V O E N L R H T O E R H —By Gordon Miller

4. Y E W W E N D A S I Y N T H I N D E F I E N D
N E W G R D B N C I Y N E G E C N R R S S T R O N G
W R O N G —By Ed Hedderson

SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

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